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The
British Empire
Overseas
By
J. T. MULLEY



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NISBETS' GEOGRAPHY CLASS BOOKS

THE BRITISH EMPIRE OVERSEAS

BY

J. T. MULLEY



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FOREWORD

THIS little book of the Geography of The British Empire Overseas is intended to give in a concise, readable form the main geographical facts of the British Empire, together with the causes of those facts and some indication of the likeness of the different parts to the lands surrounding them.

The quantity of subject-matter possible is so great that a very careful selection has had to be made, and it is hoped that the essentials of which no pupil should be entirely ignorant have been given their proper place and due prominence. For those who are interested it contains indications, in the lists of books, of further fields for study.

The great deeds that won the Empire clamour loudly for inclusion even in a geography of the Empire ; yet to treat them fully would double the size of the book. What historical references are given are therefore suggestive only ; they are meant to make the reader feel the need and the desire for further knowledge rather than to give it.

The exercises are intended to make children visualise by sketch-maps or by diagrams the verbal facts of the text ; the questions are intended to set the children thinking and questioning themselves, their teachers, or larger books of reference, diaries, dictionaries, and year-books. Text and questions are complementary, and are meant to be used together.

The whole purpose of the book may be stated to be to give sufficient to keep the child interested and yet to set him asking for more.

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THE BRITISH EMPIRE OVERSEAS

PART I

INTRODUCTORY

I. SIZE AND MAIN PARTS

1. **THE British Empire** occupies approximately a quarter of the land surface of the world, and about a quarter of the people of the world live within its bounds. Its area is a little more than $13\frac{3}{4}$ million square miles, and its population is upwards of 437 millions.

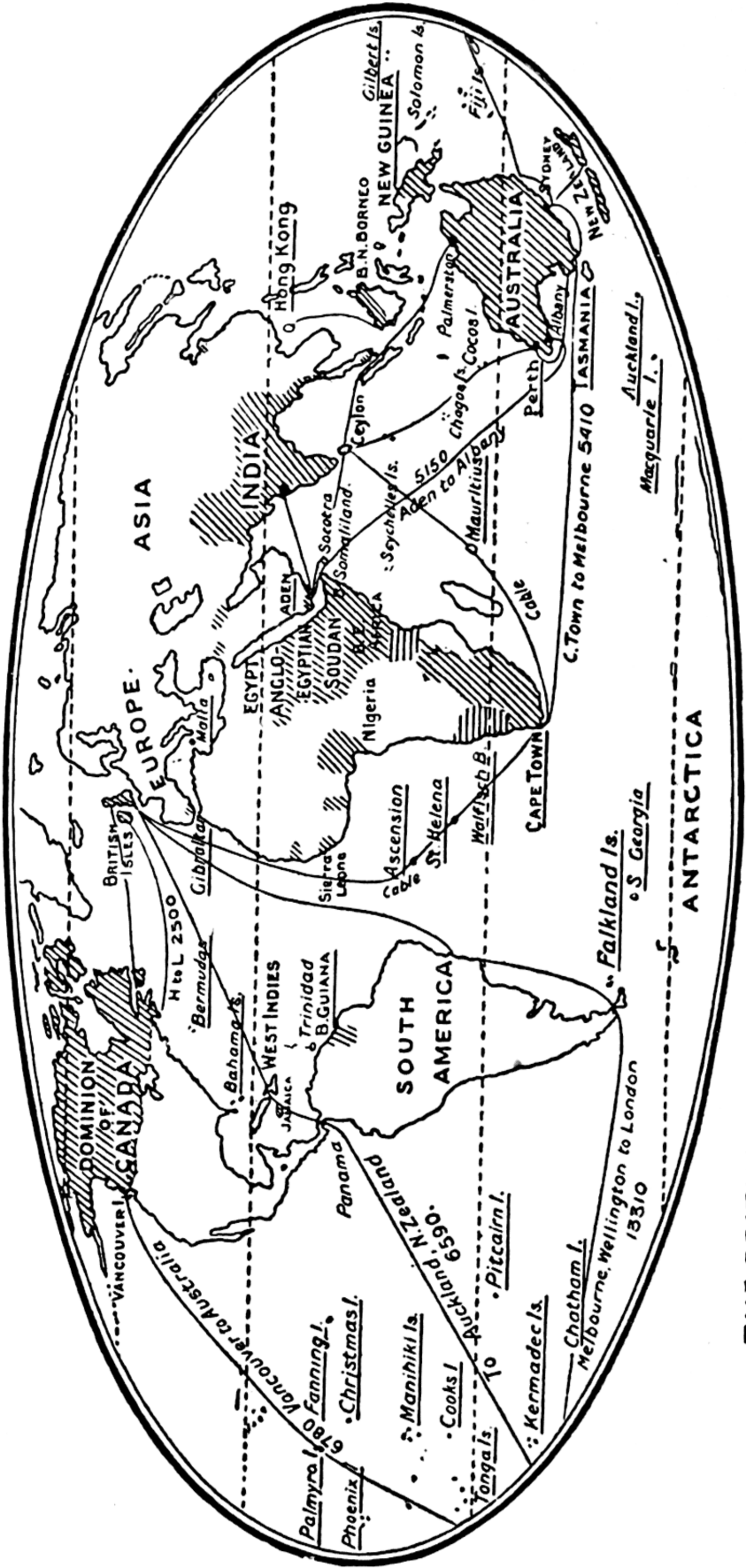
The states forming the Empire vary much in size from little lonely island groups, like the **Falkland Isles**, to huge masses of land, like **Canada** and **Australia**.

2. Wide oceans roll between the great self-governing states; yet they are linked together by common ties of ancestry, of sentiment, of love of justice and freedom, and by Britain's mastery of the sea. Communication by sea is much easier and cheaper than by land.

3. The Empire consists of:—

The Mother Country of the United Kingdom;
The great self-governing states of Canada,
Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and
the smaller, less populous Newfoundland;
The Empire of India, Ceylon, and the Straits
Settlements in the Far East;

BRITISH EMPIRE AND CHIEF ROUTES



THE BRITISH EMPIRE (including MANDATORY STATES) shaded thus

The East and West African Possessions, Rhodesia, British Central Africa, and Egypt; The West Indian Islands, British Honduras, and British Guiana;

Many small trading stations, naval stations, scattered islands, safe anchorages and calling places for ships in all parts of the world; such as Gibraltar, Malta, and Aden on the way to India; Singapore in the Straits of Malacca; and Hongkong in the Far East.

4. The areas and populations of the most important are :—

	AREA.	POPULATION.
United Kingdom . . .	121,000 sq. miles,	47 million
Dominion of Canada . .	3,700,000	8 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Commonwealth of Australia .	3,000,000	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Dominion of New Zealand .	104,000	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Union of South Africa . .	470,000	7 "
Newfoundland . . .	42,000	$\frac{1}{4}$ "
Empire of India . . .	1,800,000	320 "

5. Read *Deeds that Won the Empire*, by Fitchett; *Origin and Growth of the British Colonies*, by Egerton; *Expansion of the British Empire*, by Woodward; *British Empire in Pictures*, by Barnard; "Peeps at Many Lands" Series (*Gibraltar*, etc.); *Descriptive Geographies (British Empire)*, by Herbertson; Official Publications issued by the various Colonies; British Empire Section of the "International Information" Series (*Anstralia*, *New Zealand*, etc.); *New Lands*, by Mill; *Quaint Subjects of the King*, by Foster Fraser; *Rambles and Adventures in Australia, Canada*, etc., by Podmore; *Whitaker's Almanack*, and *Statesman's Year Book*; *The World at Work* (Nisbet).

6. Questions and Exercises.

1. Why should transport by sea usually cost less than transport by land?

2. Europe has an area approximately of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ million square miles and a population of 480 millions. Compare these with the areas and populations given in paragraph 4, using squared paper. (Let one square represent 100,000 square miles for area and 1 million for population.)

PART II

INDIA AND THE EAST

II. ON THE WAY TO INDIA

1. In the Mediterranean, **Gibraltar** and **Malta** are strongly fortified naval bases. The whole of **Egypt**, on both sides of the Suez Canal, is occupied by Britain. **Aden** and **Perim** jointly guard the narrow way out of the Red Sea.

The more easterly land route through Asia Minor is guarded by the occupation of **Mesopotamia** and **Palestine**.

2. The **Rock of Gibraltar** rises abruptly 1400 feet from a sandy isthmus joining it to Southern Spain. It is inaccessible from the north and east. It guards the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea. At the foot of the shelving north-western face is built the town of **Gibraltar**. The face of the Rock above the town is honeycombed with batteries.

There is a good anchorage. The chief trade is in *wine, tobacco, sugar, coal and provisions*.

3. The **Maltese Islands** are a group of small islands lying nearly in the centre of the Mediterranean Sea. The chief islands are **Malta**, **Gozo** and **Comino**.

Valetta, the capital, has a fine harbour, and is very strongly fortified. It is the headquarters of the British Mediterranean Fleet.

4. **Cyprus** is a large island in the Levant, or eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea.

Cyprus for many centuries was under Turkish rule. It has been a British possession since 1878. Most of the people are of the Greek race. The vine is grown and *wine* is made. *Wheat, tobacco, cotton and flax* are also grown. *Dates and raisins* are exported from **Larnaka**.

5. The **Suez Canal** crosses the sandy isthmus of Suez, between Asia and Africa, at its narrowest part, from Port Said in the north to Suez in the south. Its length is about 87 miles. Upwards of 5000 ships pass through in a year of normal trade.

6. **Aden** and its Dependencies, Perim, Socotra and British Somaliland, guard the southern outlet of the Red Sea at the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb.

Aden is a most important coaling station at the southern end of Arabia. It has a good harbour. The town is a dry, hot, sultry place. Rain falls infrequently. Aden exports *salt, gems, hides and skins*.

Near Aden is Perim, a rocky, waterless island in the centre of the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb.

Socotra is a large island lying off Cape Guardafui, the eastern horn of Africa. *Aloes* are exported.

British Somaliland is a stretch of pastoral country on the African coast of the Gulf of Aden. **Berbera** is the chief town and port.

7. **A New Route to India** and the East is a land and railway route from Berlin through German Middle Europe and the Balkan States to Constantinople. From the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus a railway runs through Asia Minor towards Bagdad, and is eventually to reach Basra, on the Persian Gulf. Britain has taken control of the eastern end of this Berlin to Bagdad route to India.

Mesopotamia, the land between the two great rivers Tigris and Euphrates, is a flat, alluvial plain. The land is fertile where irrigated, but much of it lapsed

into semi-desert under Turkish rule. The summers are very hot. *Dates, oranges and pomegranates* are grown, also some *cereals* and *rice*.

Bagdad, on the Tigris, is renowned in story and trade.

8. **Palestine** lies between the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea and the Syrian Desert. It extends northwards from the Egyptian boundary to the Mountains of Lebanon.

It consists of a coastal plain, a highland region with intersecting valleys, and the Jordan rift valley. Beyond the Jordan valley are dry pastoral lands merging into desert.

The climate is of the Mediterranean type. *Corn, olives, fruits and tobacco* are grown. *Jaffa oranges* are famous. The chief towns are those celebrated in history, Jerusalem, Jericho, Acre, Jaffa and Gaza.

The Jordan is fed by the snows of Lebanon. It is very swift. The Dead Sea, into which it runs, is very salt and has no outlet.

9. Read *Overseas Britain*, by Knight; *Gibraltar*, by Field; *Malta*, by Seddall; *Suez Canal*, by Lesseps; *Mohammed*, by Townsend; *Rambles in Lion Land* (Somaliland), by Pearce; *Jordan and its Valley*, by Adams; *Eothen*, by Kinglake.

10. Questions and Exercises.

1. Why should the opening of the Suez Canal have made Egypt more important to the British Empire?

2. Why should Gibraltar and Aden be sometimes called "Gates of Empire"? What other "gates" do you know?

3. Why are irrigation works of great importance in Mesopotamia? Why is Basra growing in importance?

4. Is the Suez Canal of any use to Australia?

5. Why should steamships coal at Aden? Why do they not carry sufficient coal to take them from England to India?

6. Make a sketch map of the route to India by the Suez Canal. Make another to show the Berlin to Bagdad route.

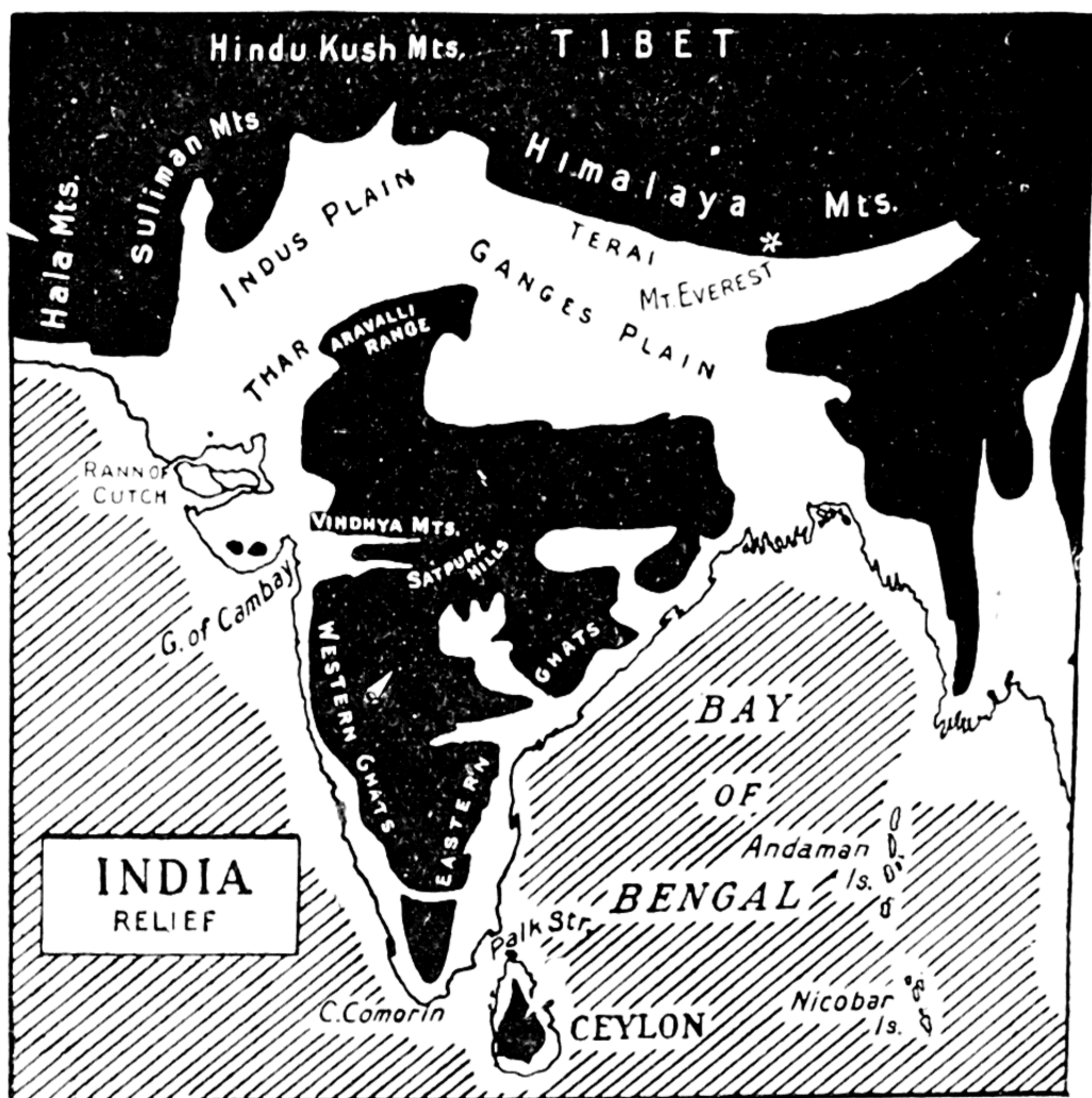
7. How could good government improve a rainless river land?

8. Make sketch maps of (i) Palestine, (ii) Mesopotamia, (iii) Gulf of Aden.

III. INDIA

1. Surface.

The great peninsula of India is in the south of Asia. It is compact in shape, tapering to Cape Comorin in the south. Its shores are washed on the west by the Arabian

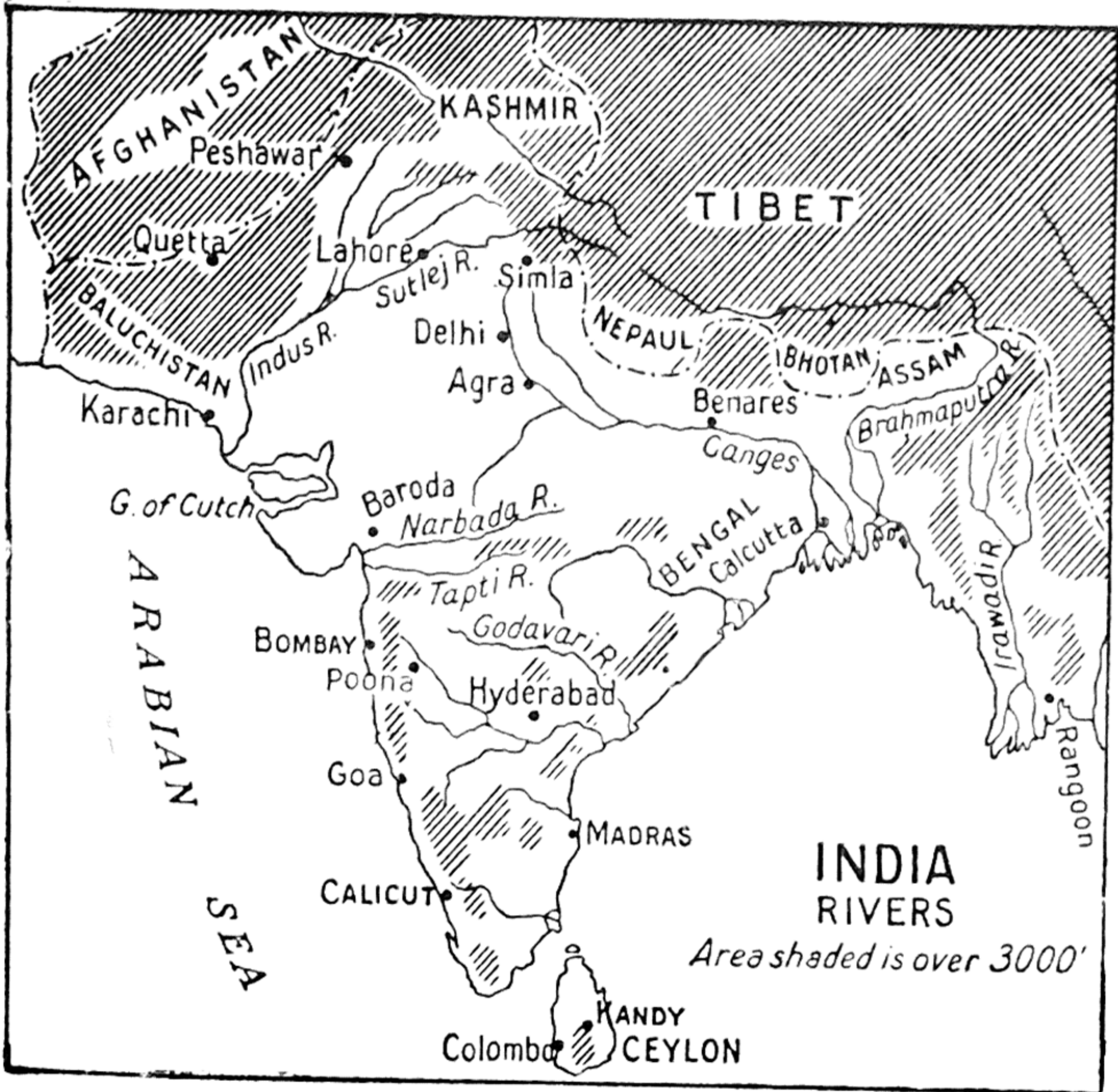


Land over 1000' black. Sea depths over 100 fathoms shaded

Sea, and on the east by the Bay of Bengal. The south-east coast is called the Coromandel Coast, and the south-west the Malabar Coast.

To the north, India is shut in from the Central Asian Tableland by the mighty mountain wall of the **Hima-**

layas. The Himalayas stretch for 1500 miles from the Hindu Kush Mountains in the north-west, to Burma in the east. The system varies from 150 to 300 miles in width. Himalaya means "abode of snow." Tremendous glaciers fill the hollows between the peaks. Mount



Everest, the highest peak, is 29,000 feet in height. Goods are carried across from Tibet on the back of the *yak*. At the base of the foothills stretches a jungle swamp, 20 miles wide, called the **Terai**.

The three great rivers of India, the Indus, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra, rise near each other among the snows of the Central Himalaya Range. The upper course of the Brahmaputra lies in almost inaccessible

gorges. Near its mouth it joins the Ganges, and the two together form an enormous delta, the Sunderbunds, a low-lying, swampy, malarial tract larger than Wales. Much of it is jungle.

The **Sulaiman** and **Hala** Mountains flank the north-western side of India. Two passes through these provide land routes to the outer world; the **Khyber Pass**, in the extreme north-west, leads into Afghanistan, and the **Bolan Pass**, farther south, into Baluchistan.

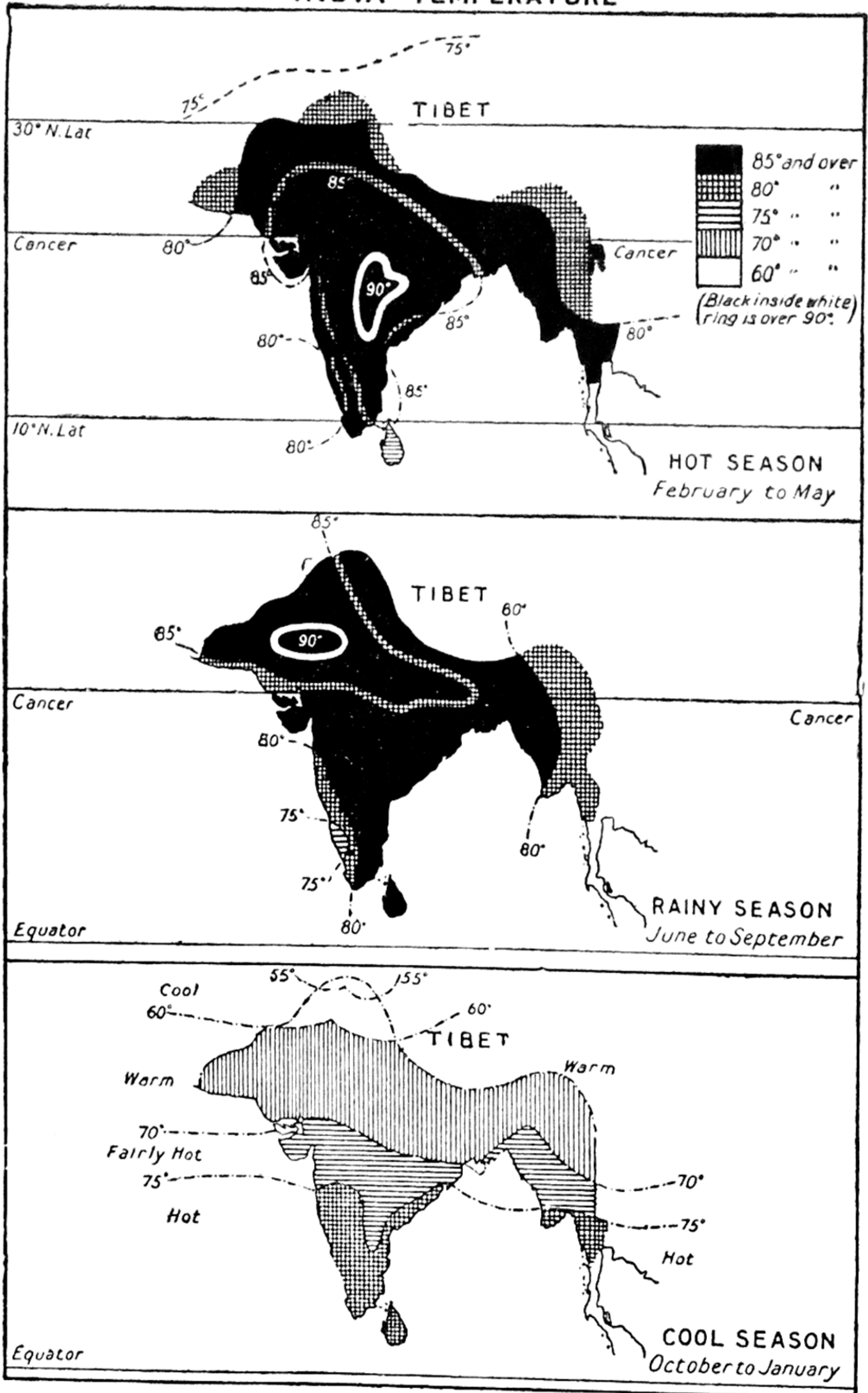
Northern India is a vast alluvial plain. In the north-west, the Punjab, or "land of the five rivers," is higher. South of the Punjab is the dry region of Sind, gradually changing on the east into the Thar, or Indian Desert. The Rann of Kutch, a continuation of the Thar southwards, is a sandy waste in the dry season and a swamp in the rainy season.

On the eastern boundary of the Great Ganges Plain the flanking mountains are less in height and bend southwards to run as parallel ranges through Burma. Long rivers drain the parallel main valleys between the ranges. Of these rivers the Irawadi and the Salwen are the chief.

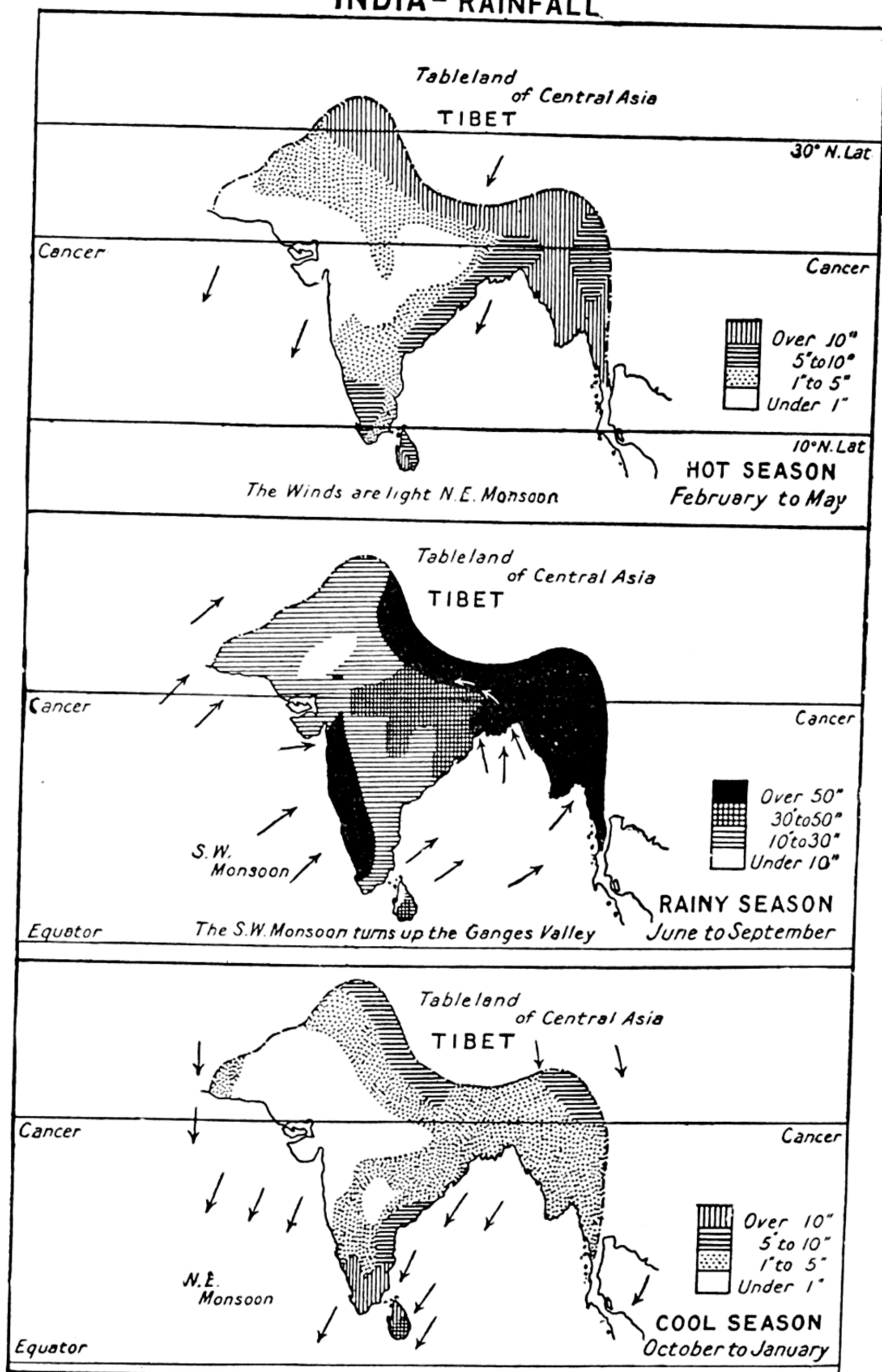
A triangular tableland, called the **Deccan**, occupies most of the southern part of India. A coast-plain of varying width lies between the sea and the ranges which edge the tableland. The widest part of the coast-plain is the Carnatic, on the eastern side of India.

The Deccan is separated from the Ganges Plain by the **Vindhya Mountains**. The Aravalli Range extends northwards between the Thar and the Ganges Plain. The Deccan is highest in the west, on that side the Western Ghats rise abruptly facing the sea. Inland are high plains with rocky stretches of uplands. The rivers run at the bottoms of deep gorges. The greater number flow east, finding their way through gaps in the Eastern Ghats to the coast-plain.

INDIA - TEMPERATURE



INDIA - RAINFALL



Two long rivers run westward, entering the sea at the Gulf of Cambray : the Narbada and the Tapti.

2. Climate and Monsoons.

A great part of India is within the Tropics. The peninsula extends from about 8° north of the Equator to 30° north latitude. The climate therefore is hot throughout the year except on the upper slopes of the mountains. There are three seasons :—

- (i) The *cool*, from October to January ;
- (ii) The *hot*, from February to May ;
- (iii) The *rainy*, from June to September.

The temperature of the Indo-Gangetic Plain averages from 60° to 70° . In the south it increases to about 80° . The isotherms run nearly parallel.

India is a part of the Monsoon area of South-Eastern Asia. Its climate, productions and population depend very largely upon the monsoons. Monsoons are periodic winds which are caused by the difference in heating effect of the sun's rays upon land and sea. The land is heated much more quickly than the sea, and it also cools more quickly. The air surrounding the earth is warmed mainly by the radiation of heat from the surface immediately beneath it, and consequently the temperature of the air over a land surface is often different from that of air over the sea, though both land and sea receive the same amount of heat from the sun. Where the temperature is high the air expands and rises. The place of the ascending air is taken by an inflow of cooler denser air from the regions adjacent.

To the south of India is open ocean, to the north are the vast tablelands of Central Asia. In the Northern Winter, the sun being overhead south of the Equator, the Indian Ocean is hotter than the Tibetan and Central Asian Tablelands. The air over the ocean is warmed, it

expands and rises. The air of the cold tablelands is cold and dense, and a movement of air sets in from Central Asia to the low-pressure area over the seas around. This wind, called the **North-East Monsoon**, is usually a light wind.

Coming as it does from over the land mass of Central Asia, the North-East Monsoon is a dry wind. It only takes rain to the Coromandel Coast and that part of the Deccan which it reaches after crossing the Bay of Bengal.

As the sun moves northward from the Equator to the Tropic of Cancer the conditions are reversed. The high plateaux of Central Asia are warmed. The dry monsoon weakens, the direction changes from north-east to more easterly and then to the south. The heating of the land masses goes on for a long time before the change of wind actually takes place. There are two or three months of great drought and very high temperature. This is the hot season of India. There are two centres of greatest heat, one in the Deccan and the other in the Thar and the lands near.

When the change of wind does come there are violent storms. In India the direction of the Monsoon is from the south-west, but over the whole Monsoon area of South-Eastern Asia it is *towards* the high plateaux in the centre of Asia.

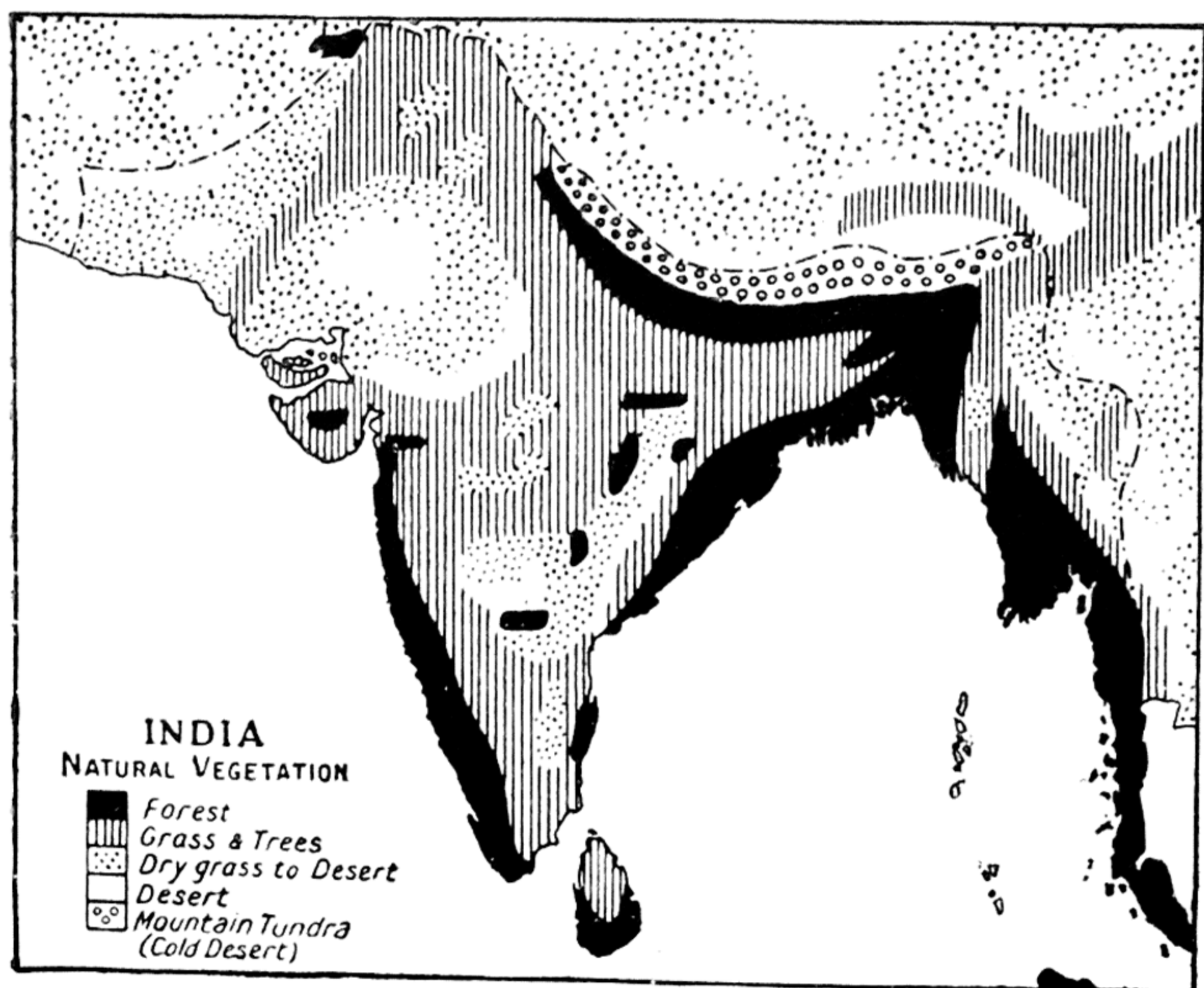
The **South-West Monsoon** coming from over the sea brings rain to India. On the high, steep Western Ghats there is a very heavy rainfall. The rainfall gradually decreases from the eastern side of the Ganges plain to the western. If the monsoon fails, drought and famine follow.

3. Crops of India.

The food products and crops of India are similar to those of all the Monsoon area of Asia. Nine-tenths of the people of India are agriculturists.

In the low lands of the coast plains, in the river deltas, especially that of the Irawadi in Burma, and along the Ganges banks where the rainfall is heavy and irrigation possible, *rice* and *sugar* are grown.

On the slightly higher lands *millet* is grown. Rice and millet are the staple foods of the Indian agriculturists.



Wheat is largely grown as a cool season crop in the Punjab. Much wheat is exported from Karachi, near the Indus mouth.

Jute is one of the principal crops of the Ganges Delta. On all the Ganges plain, *oilseeds*, *indigo* and the white "*opium*" poppy are grown. *Patna*, on the Ganges, is the great centre for rice and opium.

Tea, which needs heavy rains, hot sun, but a well-drained soil, is grown in plantations on the hillsides, particularly in *Assam*, a district to the north and east of the Ganges Delta. There are *coffee* plantations on the

Nilgiri Hills. To shelter the coffee plants the *cinchona* tree is cultivated ; from its bark *quinine* is obtained. The tea and coffee plantations are managed by white men.

Tobacco is cultivated on the drier eastern slopes of the Deccan and in parts of Burma. *Pepper* is also grown.

Cotton is very largely grown in the **Deccan**, where the climate is suitable, and where in parts there is a rich volcanic soil.

The great certainty of agriculture under Monsoon conditions early made the Gangetic Plain the home of a vast settled population. The Lower Indus in the dry season is often very shallow and irrigation is difficult. In Sind the annual rainfall does not often exceed 10 inches. The Indus basin is therefore less thickly populated than the Ganges plain.

The Hindu cultivator of the plains, particularly the Bengali, is a patient, plodding worker, tilling only a small patch of land. His house is little better than a mud hut, with little furniture other than a few mats and cooking utensils. His principal beast of burden is the humped ox.

4. Wild Life and Vegetation.

The wild life of India is rich and wonderful. Thick jungle covers much of the country. Wild animals abound both in the jungles and in the tropic forests of Western and Southern India.

The *tiger*, *panther*, *hyena*, *cheetah*, *wolf*, *wild dog* and *jackal* hunt the *deer* and other grass eaters ; *wild buffaloes* wallow in the marshes ; *wild pigs* provide sport ; herds of *elephants* are found in the out-of-the-way parts of the country ; there are *bears* and *wild bees* ; *monkeys* chatter and scream in the trees.

Venomous snakes of many kinds lurk in the grasses

and in the hollow parts of fallen trees ; one of the worst is the hooded *cobra*. Enormous *pythons* hang from the branches of the trees. Some 16,000 people yearly die of snake-bite in India. Alligators infest the rivers.

In the luxuriant forests of Burma and on the Western Ghats *teak* trees are found. The *coco-nut palm* grows well in the south of India. On the drier parts of the Deccan are date palms.

The *banyan* or Indian fig, the *mango* and the *bamboo* grow well in many parts of India.

5. Minerals and Manufactures.

The native craftsmen of India are wonderfully skilful. Vessels of gold, silver and of brass, handwoven carpets and silken goods whose colours never faded, long ago aroused the admiration of Western Europeans.

The best Indian hand-made carpets are marvels of softness and durability.

Modern factories for the making of *carpets*, *cotton*, *silk* and *jute* goods by machinery have been opened by Europeans.

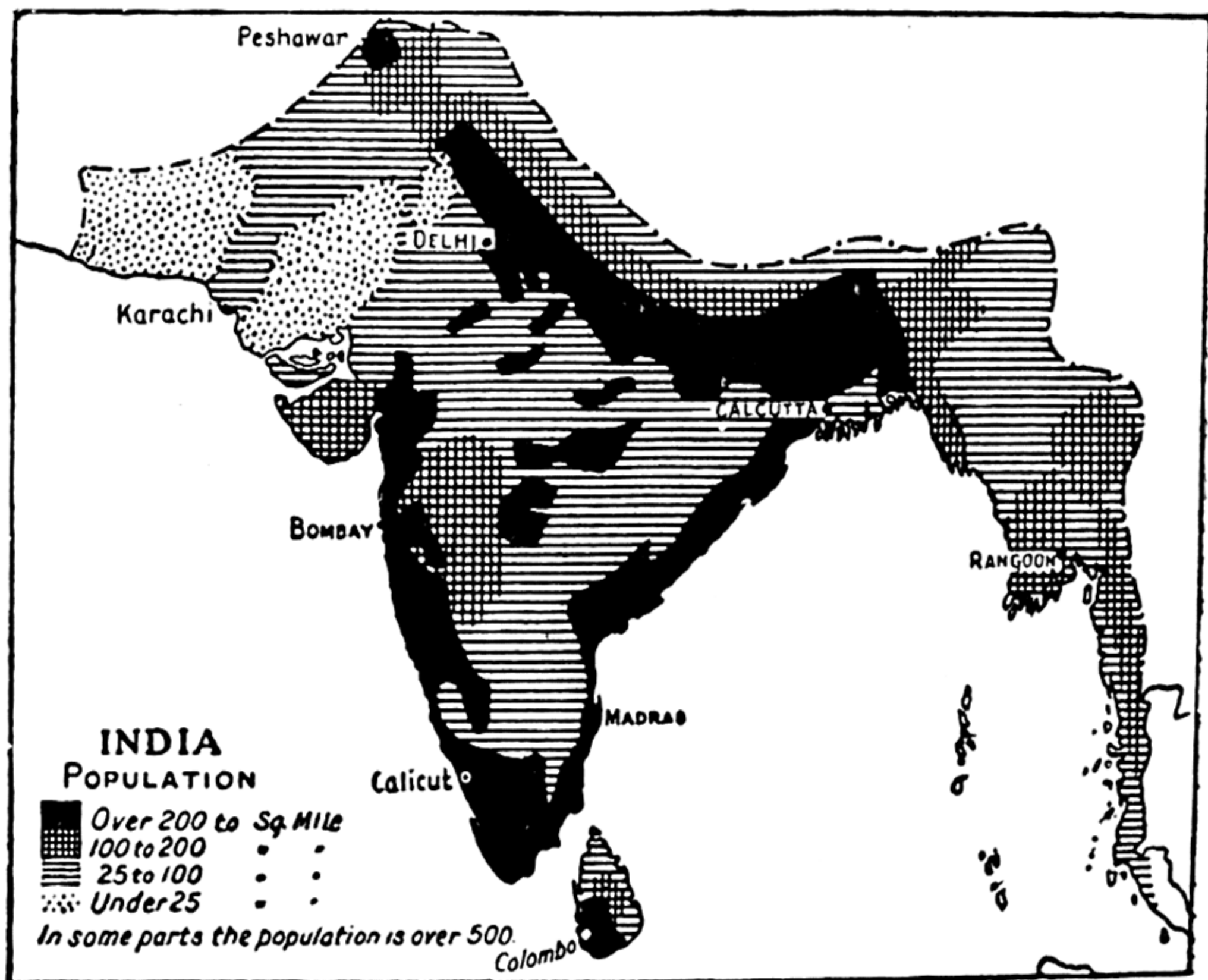
Gold is mined in Mysore, a native state in the south of the Deccan. *Coal* is worked mainly to supply the railways and factories. *Rock salt* is found in the Punjab. It is one of the most important minerals of India. There are *ruby* mines in Burma. *Petroleum* is found in Assam and Burma.

6. Peoples and Religions.

Hindustan is not one country. In an area half as large as Europe, with a population of 320 millions, there are really several countries and a variety of races. The people vary from brown, highly civilised Hindus to dark, wild Deccan races, little better than savages. There are upwards of 200 different languages spoken.

The *Hindus*, who are the most numerous, are of the *Brahmin* religion. They believe in three chief gods, but the common people have a debased belief in many deities and sacred animals. The humped white ox is a sacred animal, and the Ganges is a holy river, to the Hindu.

One great feature of the Hindu people is their division into *castes* or classes. Different castes must not inter-



marry, and each caste has its own hereditary occupation. There are four chief castes, but there are many subdivisions. The Brahmin or priest caste is the highest.

There are many Mohammedans in India. They are descendants of the followers of the Mogul conquerors of India. To them the pig is an abomination.

The people of Burma are believers in *Buddha*. Buddha taught love of our fellow-men, and kindness to animals.

The *Sikhs* of the Punjab are a fighting warlike race

very different from the Bengali. Living on the northern mountains are many hill tribes, men of great activity and splendid fighting qualities.

On the Western Ghats around Poonah, and in the North-Western Deccan generally, is the home of the *Mahrattas*, a race which long pillaged the people of the plains before the British ruled India.

In Bombay lives an interesting race called *Parsees*. They are fire-worshippers who fled from Persia when that country was conquered by the Mohammedans. Much of the cotton trade of Bombay is in their hands.

7. British Power in India.

The development of the British power in India has been almost marvellous.

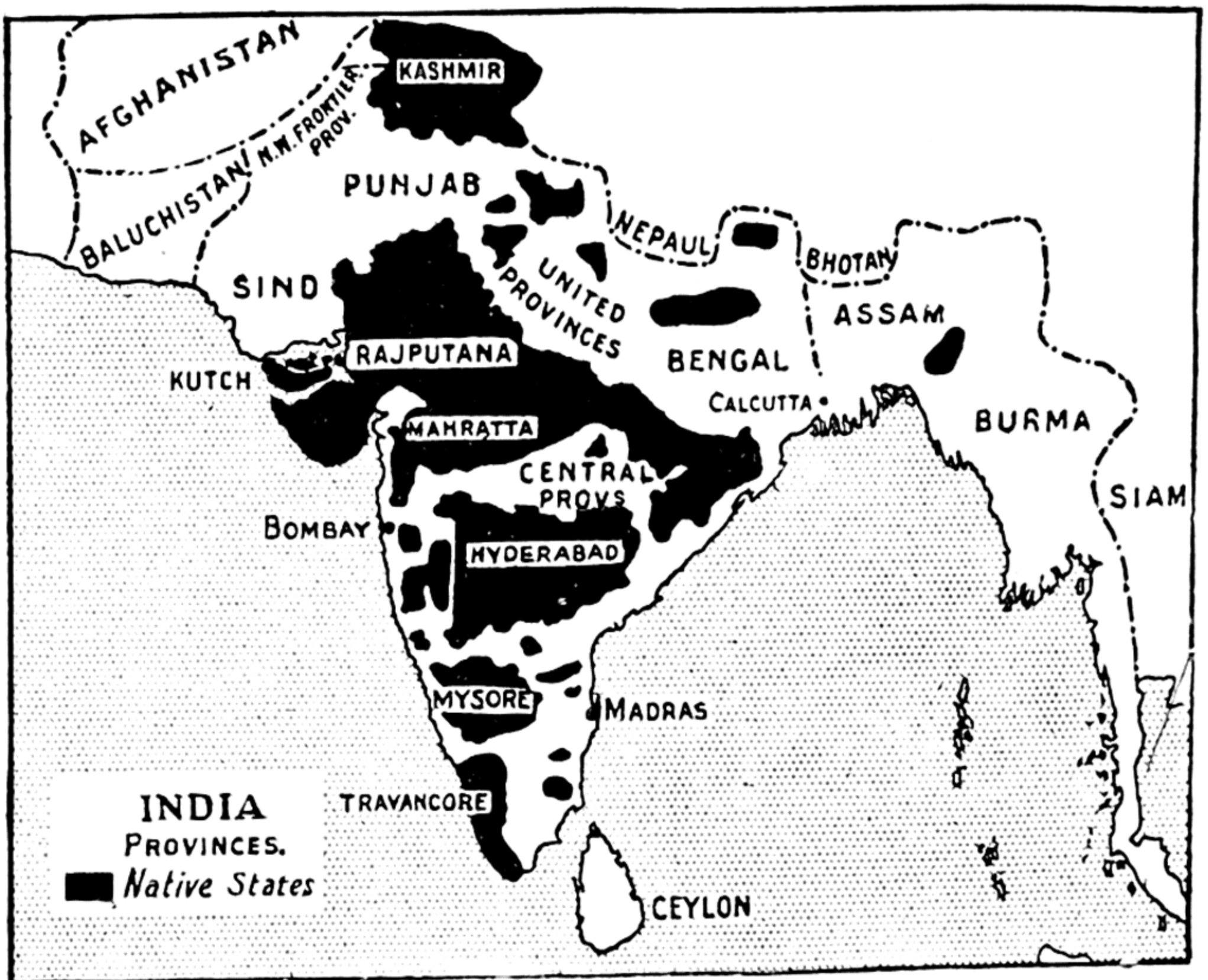
The **East India Company** was formed to trade with India and the East at the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign. The Company obtained permission from the Emperor of Delhi to set up a factory at Surat. Others were opened later at Fort William (now Calcutta) and Fort St. George (now Madras).

It was necessary to have armed guards to keep the goods and merchandise safe. Native soldiers, or sepoy, were engaged. Gradually there grew up a little army officered by white men. The French East India Company did the same, but the French and their great leader, Dupleix, first thought of using their well-drilled native army in the quarrels between rival native princes, and so gaining power and land for themselves.

The genius of **Robert Clive** changed the fortunes of India. In 1751 he seized and held Arcot with a few hundred men. In 1757, with a tiny army of 3000 men, he broke the power of the Nabob of Bengal at Plassey near Calcutta. This battle established the British as the paramount power in India, and by 1857 the Com-

pany's officers ruled directly or indirectly almost the whole peninsula.

In 1857 the **Indian Mutiny** broke out. An army of a quarter of a million sepoys revolted, killing their officers and massacring white men, women and children indiscriminately. When the Mutiny had been suppressed by determined little British armies under Generals



Havelock and Sir Colin Campbell, the East India Company was abolished and the government of the country placed under the British Crown and Parliament. The King of England has now the title of Emperor of India.

8. Provinces and Government.

A Viceroy represents the King. Since 1921 laws have been made by a Council of State and a Legislative Assembly, most of the members in both cases being

elected. The country is divided into provinces with separate governors and Legislative Councils. The chief are :—Bengal, Bombay, Madras, Punjab, Assam, Burma, Sind, Central Provinces, and North-West Provinces.

There are some 800 native states in which the native princes still rule, but at each court is a British resident. The largest native districts are Hyderabad ; Mysore ; Rajputana ; and three fairly large Mahratta districts in Indore, Gwalior, and Baroda.

Kashmir (or Cashmere) is a native state in the extreme north-west. Its climate is cooler than India generally, and in winter snow covers the valleys. The scenery around Srinagar, the capital, is very fine. Kashmir is noted for its *Cashmere shawls*.

Baluchistan is a rocky, arid, infertile country lying south of Afghanistan and west of the Hala Mountains. It is thinly peopled.

Nepal and **Bhotan** are two independent states on the Himalayan slopes, north of Bengal.

9. Towns and Trade.

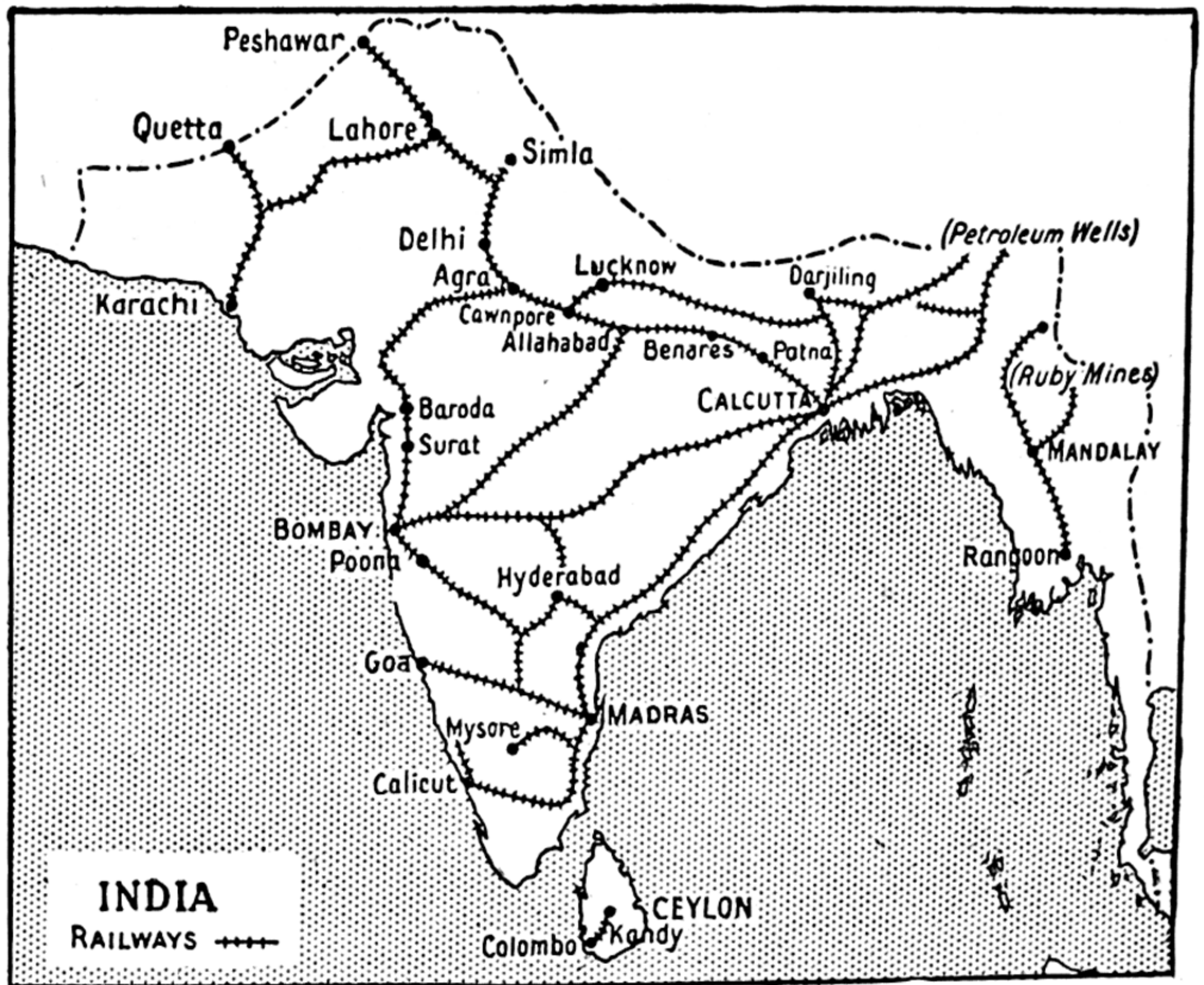
There are many large towns in India. Some, like the great seaports of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, have grown up since the British occupation. Most of the towns on the Ganges banks are old, for the Ganges has always a fair depth of water and has been for centuries the great highway for trade in Northern India.

Calcutta, on the Hugli, one of the mouths of the Ganges, is the second largest town in the British Empire. It trades in all the products of the Ganges basin, particularly *opium*, *jute*, *oilseeds*, *tea* and *indigo*. Darjiling, due north of Calcutta, is a summer hill station.

Bombay, on the western coast, has the best harbour in India. The name means “good harbour.” It is the great port for *cotton*.

Madras was built on the open, surf-beaten Coromandel coast. There is now an artificial harbour. Madras trades in *rice, cinchona, teak, sugar* and *indigo*.

Delhi was for long the capital under the Moguls, and is the chief seat of Government to-day. It is a wonderful old city, with fine palaces and temples. It is also a manufacturing town of considerable importance. It stands on the Jumna, a tributary of the Ganges. Due



north of Delhi is Simla, a hill station from which India is governed in the hot and rainy seasons.

Agra, on the Jumna, is noted for the wonderful *Taj Mahal*, said to be the finest building in the world. It was built by the Emperor Shah Jehan in memory of his favourite wife.

Lucknow, on the Ganges, is famous for its defence during the Indian Mutiny.

Cawnpore was the scene of a horrible massacre of English women and children by Nana Sahib during the Mutiny.

Allahabad (abode of Allah) is a sacred city of the Mohammedans. It is a great railway centre.

Benares, on the Ganges, is the holy city of the Hindus. Thousands of pilgrims resort there yearly to bathe in the Ganges. There are many temples in the city.

Lahore, the capital of the Punjab, commands the waterways up the five rivers.

Peshawar is a strongly fortified town in the Khyber Pass.

Rangoon, a port on the Irawadi, is the capital of Burma. It trades in *rice*, *rubies* and *teak*.

10. Ceylon.

Ceylon is a large island, about half the size of England, lying immediately south of India, from which it is separated by the Gulf of Manaar and Palk Strait. Both are too shallow for ocean-going steamers.

The island is fairly level round the coast and in the north; the centre and south-west are mountainous, rising to some 8000 feet in Pedrotallagalla and Adam's Peak.

The climate and productions are tropical. Luxuriant forests cover much of the surface. *Rice* is largely grown on the low levels. There are many *tea* plantations on the hillsides. The *coco-palm* flourishes. *Tea*, *coffee*, *coco-nuts*, *cinchona*, *rubber*, *tobacco* and *spices* are exported.

Ceylon is rich in precious stones. *Pearls* are found in the Gulf of Manaar. *Graphite* (blacklead) is exported for pencil-making.

The capital and chief port is **Colombo** on the south-west coast.

11. Read *Kim*, *The Jungle Books*, by Rudyard Kipling; *In India*, by Steevens; *Land of the Ganges*, by Marrat; *Cities of India*, by Forrest; *In the Forbidden Land*, by Landor; *Travel in Burma*, by Curtis; *Land of the White Elephant*, by Vincent; *Abode of Snow*, by Wilson; *Ceylon*, by Willis; *Ceylon*, by Corner; *Tea* (Peeps at Industries), by Browne.

12. Questions and Exercises.

1. Why is the plain of the Ganges more thickly populated than the Deccan?

2. Why have Bombay and Calcutta grown under the British occupation so much quicker than the inland towns?

3. Give any reasons for the rainfall of the Deccan being less than that of the Ganges Basin.

4. What causes the swamp at the foot of the Himalayas?

5. Why is tea grown on the hills of Assam and not on the Hala Mountains?

6. Show graphically the following values of exports from India: Opium, £2 million; Jute (raw), £8½ m.; Jute (manufactured), £35 m.; Grain, £26·5 m.; Cotton (raw), £20·5 m.; Tea, £10 m.; Seeds £7·4 m.; Hides, £6·2 m.; Wool, £3·4 m.; Rubber, £1·6 m.

7. Can you suggest any reasons why the Ganges is regarded as a holy river by the Hindus?

8. Why should a railway through Asia Minor to the Persian Gulf be of importance to England?

9. Do you think the rivers of the Deccan are as useful to India as the Ganges? Give reasons for your answer.

10. Why should the South-West Monsoon change its direction and blow up the Ganges Valley?

11. Make sketch maps of India to show:—mountains and plains; winds, isotherms and rainfall; crops; railways; and provinces.

12. Show graphically the following river lengths: Brahmaputra, 1900 m.; Indus, 1700 m.; Ganges, 1680 m.; Godaveri, 900 m.; Kistna, 800 m.; Mahanadi, 520 m.; Cauvery, 472 m.; Shannon, 254 m.; Thames, 215 m.

13. Compare the following heights, using vertical columns on squared paper: Everest, 29,000 ft.; Mount Blanc, 15,700 ft.; Kosciusko (Australia), 7500 ft.; Ben Nevis, 4400 ft.; Snowdon, 3550 ft.

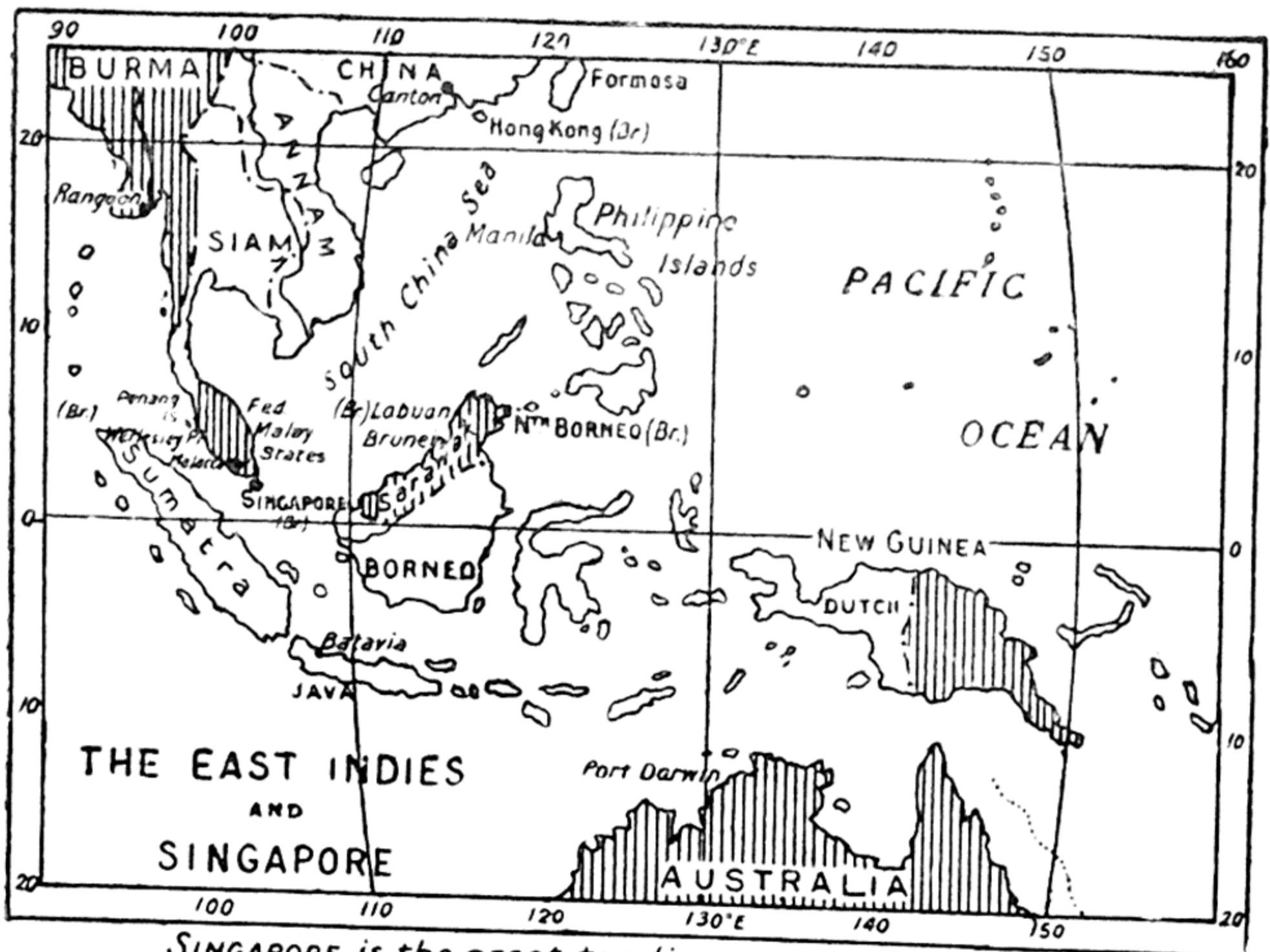
IV. THE FAR EAST

1. The Straits Settlements and Malay Peninsula.

One of the world's great gateways is the *Malacca Strait*. It lies between the long narrow *Malay Peninsula* and the island of Sumatra. Through it passes the vast

volume of trade between China and Western Europe. Guarding the southern end of the strait is the little island of Singapore, the chief of the Straits Settlements.

Singapore is one of the greatest commercial centres in the world. The products of the islands of the East Indies and of the Malay Peninsula are collected there



*SINGAPORE is the great trading centre of the FAR EAST
Hong-Kong is the trading centre for CHINA.
British Possessions shaded or marked (Br.)*

and re-shipped by ocean liners. *Spices, sago, rice, coffee, pepper, camphor, gambier, rubber, tobacco and tin ore* are exported.

All the Malay States are fertile and tropical, with tangled jungles, many wild animals and birds of gorgeous plumage. Delicious fruits are grown. *Malacca canes* are famous.

Labuan, a small island near Borneo, is included under the government of the Straits Settlements. It has large *coal* deposits and a *cable station*.

Johore and several other small states in the Malay Peninsula are under British protection. Much tin ore is found.

2. British Borneo.

British North Borneo, Brunei and Sarawak, in the large island of Borneo, are British. *Tobacco* is very largely grown and much *sago* is exported.

The forests produce *teak*, *ebony*, *dyewoods*, *gums* and *resins*. The whole country is rich in minerals.

Sarawak is a native state under a British Rajah.

3. Hongkong and Wei-Hai-Wei.

Hongkong is the centre of British trade with China. It is a small island near the mouth of the Canton River in Southern China. There is a fine harbour between the island and the mainland.

The chief trade is in *opium* (imported from India), *tea*, *sugar*, *silk* and *manufactured goods*.

Wei-Hai-Wei is a naval base on the south shore of the Gulf of Pe-chi-li in Northern China.

4. Read *Middy and Ensign, Nat the Naturalist*, by Fenn; *Gems of the East*, by Landor; *British Malaya*, by Swettenham; *Head Hunters of Borneo*, by Bock.

5. Questions and Exercises.

1. Make sketch maps to show:—(i) Singapore, (ii) Hongkong, (iii) the seaways to Hongkong, (iv) a western route to Hongkong.

2. What makes the position of Hongkong important?

3. A century ago the seas around the Malay Peninsula were infested by pirates. What effect would it have on the price of tea in England? Would it make as much difference now?

4. Why are the coal deposits of Labuan valuable to Britain?

PART III

LANDS OF THE WEST

V. THE DOMINION OF CANADA

1. Surface.

The Dominion of Canada occupies nearly the whole of the northern part of North America.

There are three great physical divisions in North America :—

- (i) The Western Mountains ;
- (ii) The Central Plains ;
- (iii) The Eastern Highlands ;

with the coast plains on each seaboard.

The **Western Mountain System** extends in a belt of high land from the extreme north to the Panama Isthmus. In Canada there are three chief ranges. They are known as the **Rocky Mountains**, which form the eastern edge, the **Cascade Mountains** in the centre, and the **Coast Range** in the west. The general height of the land decreases from the Rocky Mountains towards the Pacific. There is a string of islands along the western coast, stretching from Vancouver Island in the south, through Queen Charlotte Islands to the high mountains of Alaska in the north. There the range rises to the greatest heights in Canada, Mount Logan over 19,000 ft., and Mount St. Elias, 18,000 ft. Nearly the whole of this belt of high land is more than 3000 feet above sea-level. The scenery is very fine.



The mountain lands are rich in minerals. *Gold, coal, silver, copper, lead and zinc* are all found.

The **Central Plain** occupies a great part of Canada. It slopes down gently from the foothills of the Rocky Mountains until it reaches the great submerged tract of Hudson Bay in the east, and the intricate channels and icy wastes of the island groups of the Northern Polar Seas. From Hudson Bay the plain rises again to the Eastern Highlands.

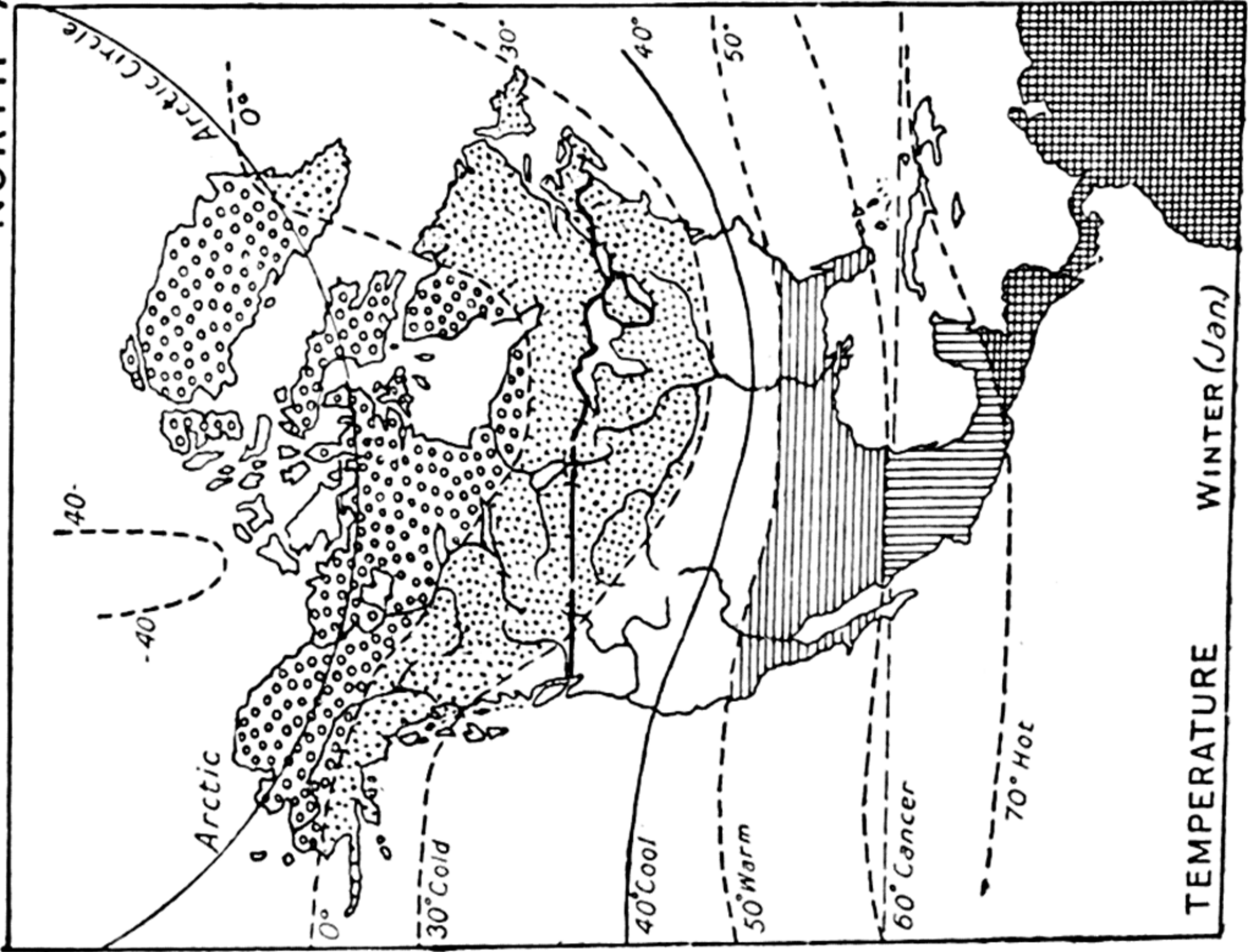
The **Eastern or Laurentian Highlands** occupy most of the peninsula between Hudson Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. They are separated from the highlands of Greenland by the wide Davis Strait and Baffin Bay. In the north the Laurentian Highlands end in the high cliffs and deep fiords of the rocky Labrador Coast.

Iron and other minerals are found, but no coal. The water power available is enormous, for there are many lakes and streams.

The **natural waterways** of Canada are unsurpassed by those of any other country in the world. One-sixth of the surface is water. Three great river and lake systems occupy the Central Plain. In the north is the Mackenzie River, draining northwards to the Arctic Ocean ; in the centre is the Saskatchewan-Nelson, flowing eastwards to Hudson Bay ; and in the east is the St. Lawrence, draining the Great Lakes through the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Atlantic Ocean. In the west are two important rivers, the Frazer and the Columbia River. Hundreds of smaller rivers run down the Pacific mountain slopes. The Yukon River runs from the northern part of the Rocky Mountains north-west through Alaska to Behring Strait. It is only open to navigation during summer.

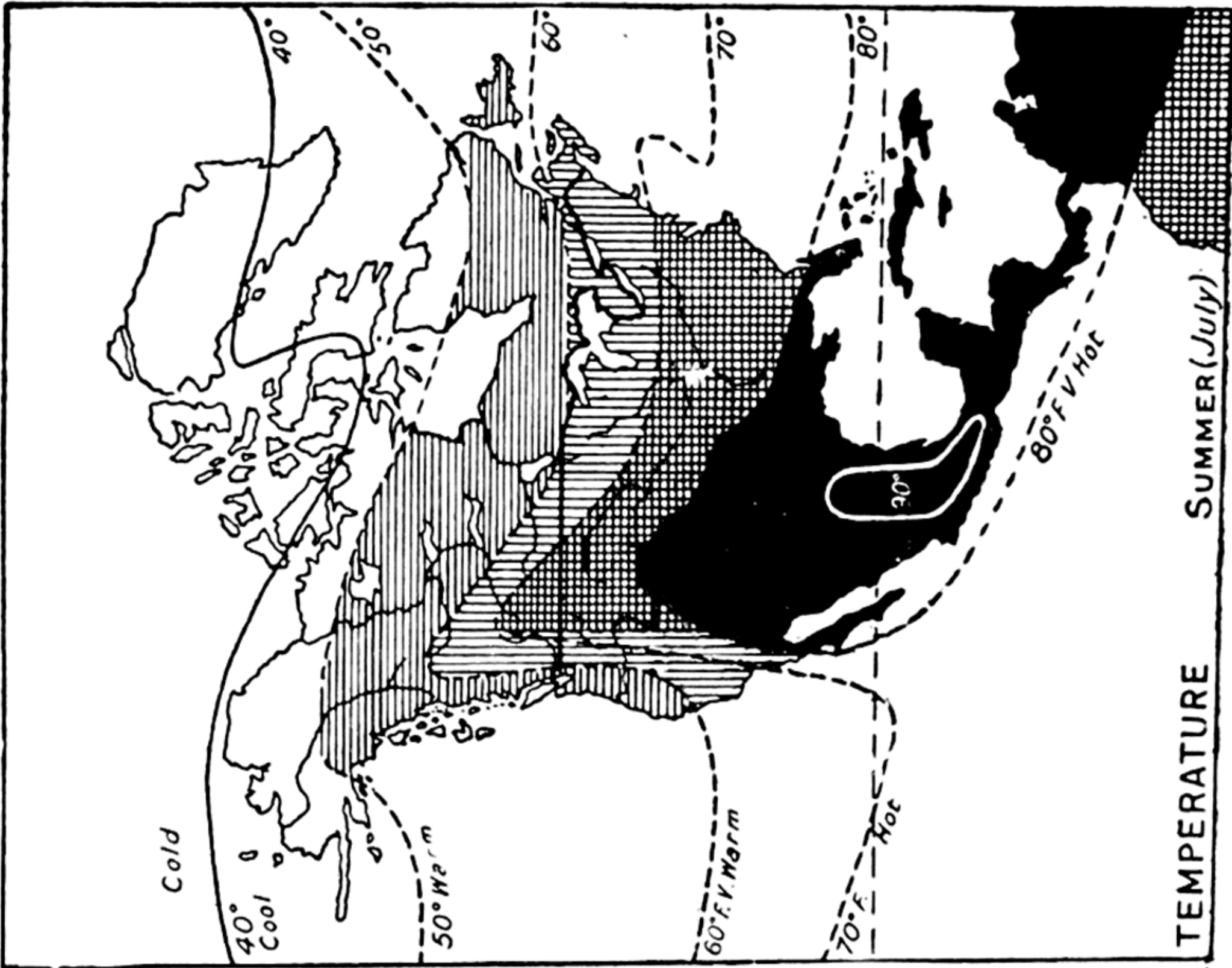
The **St. Lawrence** drains the wonderful great lake system of Canada. The five great lakes, *Superior,*

NORTH AMERICA



TEMPERATURE

WINTER (Jan)



TEMPERATURE

SUMMER (July)

Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario, together form the largest volume of fresh water in the world. Lake Superior is nearly as large as Ireland (32,000 sq. miles). The total length of the river, including the great lakes, is 2500 miles. The chief tributary of the St. Lawrence is the Ottawa. Navigation is possible, by the aid of canals, for fairly large ships from the sea to the far end of Lake Superior.

Between Lakes Erie and Ontario the river is known as the Niagara. In its course are the famous *Niagara Falls*.

2. Climate.

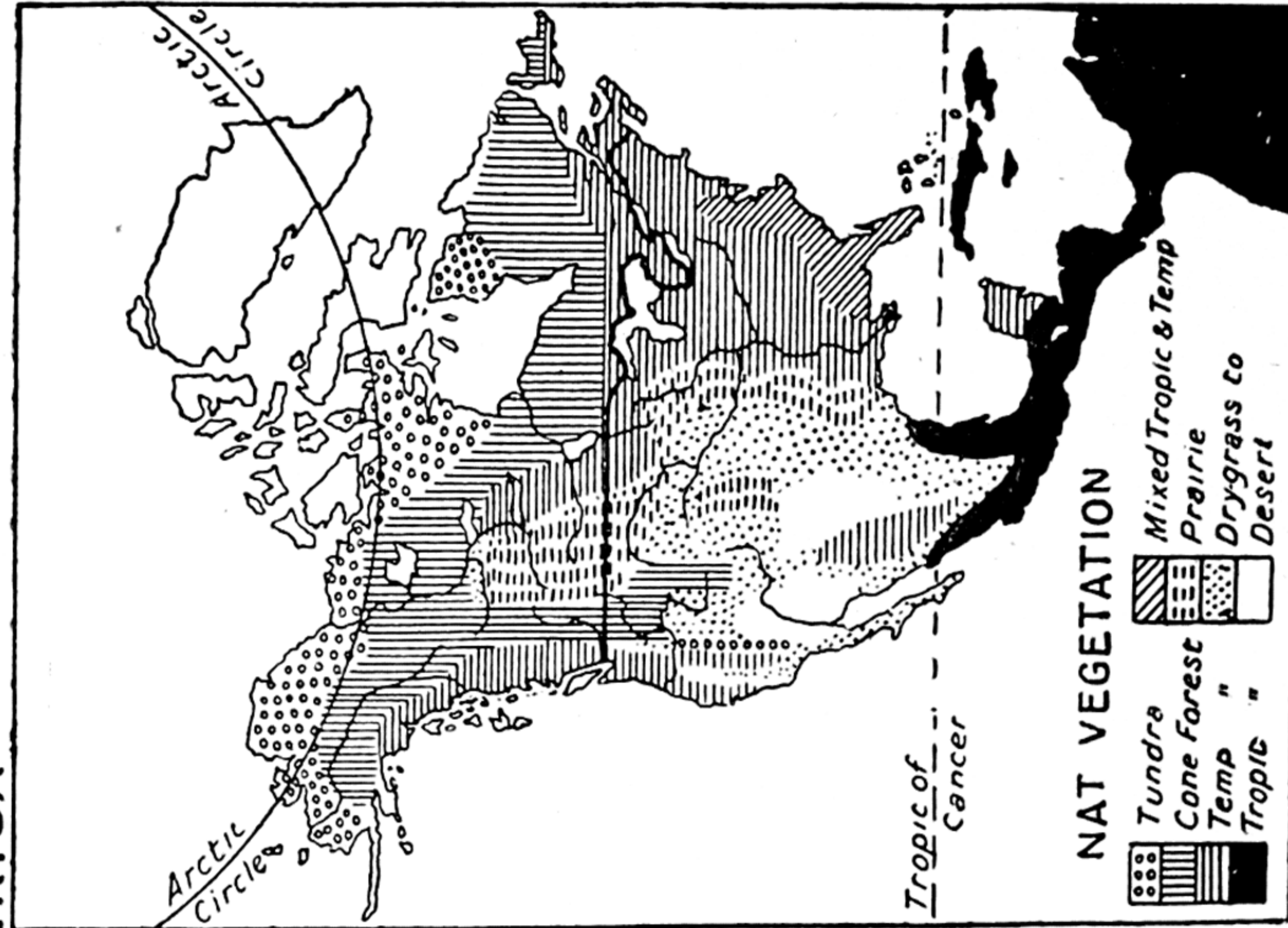
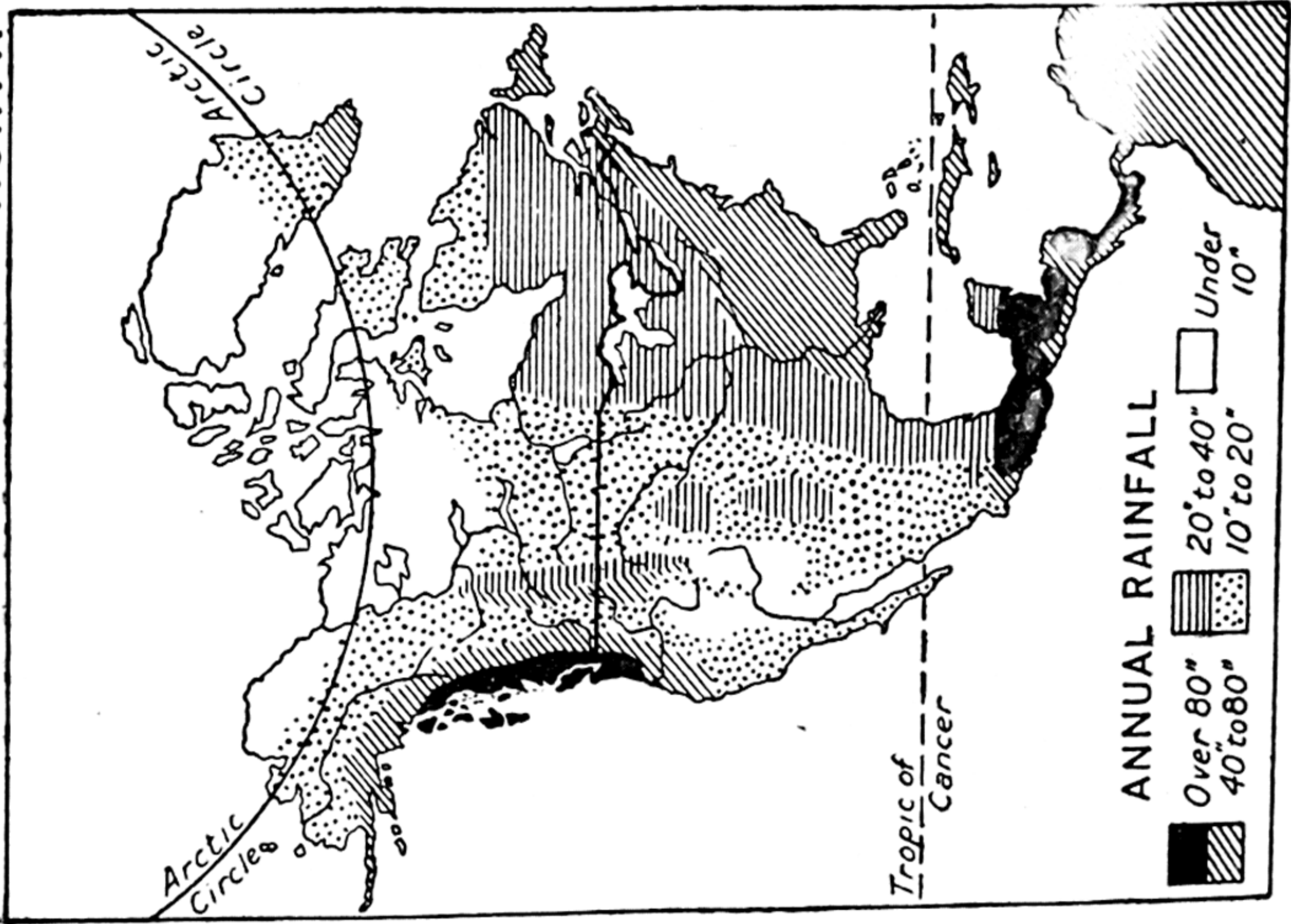
The northern part of the Dominion lies within the Arctic Circle. It has long, dark, dreary winters, but short, bright summers. The summers grow longer and warmer farther south. The July isotherms show an average of 40° F. in the far north, and 70° F. near the southern border-line.

The winters are very cold all over the Dominion, with the exception of the western coast, which more nearly resembles England. The average winter temperature is many degrees below freezing point (32° F.).

Much snow falls, and lies from one to two or three feet thick in places. The rivers are icebound. Though cold, the winter is healthy and invigorating.

The rainfall on the west coast is very heavy. More than 80 inches falls in the course of the year. It drops to under 20 inches in a dry belt between the Cascades and the Rocky Mountains. It increases to 40 inches on the Rocky Mountain slopes. The warm winds from the Pacific bring much moisture with them. The mountain barrier forces the moving air and clouds upwards. Their moisture is condensed by the cold of the upper air, and falls as drenching rain through all seasons. The winds

NORTH AMERICA



descend to the foothills on the edge of the plain as warm dry winds, and the snows of winter melt like magic under their influence.

The east coast is also very rainy, but the quantity of rain lessens gradually from the coast to the interior, falling from an average of 40 inches on the coast to about 20 inches in the centre of the great plain, and decreasing from there to a little over 10 inches at the foot of the Rocky Mountains.

3. Natural Regions.

In the far north are desolate icy wastes, called *tundra*, with no vegetation. The tundra changes gradually, first lichens and mosses appear, then farther south stunted specimens of spruce and birch grow hardily in sheltered spots. A few scattered Eskimos are the only inhabitants. They make a precarious living by fishing, and hunting the seal and polar bear. In winter they build snow huts, in summer they dwell in tents. They travel long distances by means of sledges drawn by dog teams.

Coniferous forests succeed the tundra. First a few trees, then more and more until the forests are so thick that travelling through them is difficult. This forest extends right across the country, covering most of the basins of the Mackenzie and Nelson Rivers, and a great part of the northern part of the Eastern Highlands.

Small fur-bearing animals are found on the forest edge nearest the tundra; the *sable*, *marten*, *ermine* *silver fox* and also the *grey wolf*. Wandering Indians hunt and trap these animals, taking their skins or "pelts" to the scattered posts of the Hudson Bay Company, whose trading stations are the only white settlements in the far north of the forest.

Farther south, the *brown bear*, *deer* and *moose*, *lynx*, *otter*, *wolverine* and *beaver* are found. In the wooded

valleys and slopes of the Rocky Mountain foothills are *grizzly bears*.

Mixed forests of deciduous trees are found on the southern slopes of the Eastern Highlands, on the hill-sides bordering the Great Lakes, and on both sides of the St. Lawrence basin.

In the western part of the Central Plains, where the rainfall is more scanty, the forests disappear. In place of trees are rolling grassy plains, the North American *prairies*.

West of the Rocky Mountains the heavy rains and warmer winters favour the growth of trees, and splendid forests of *black and yellow pine, oak, larch, spruce, maple* and *cedar* cover the valleys and mountain slopes.

The forests are one great source of Canada's wealth. Many wooden houses are built by new settlers on the treeless prairies. Great quantities of timber are exported to Europe.

Much timber, spruce and fir chiefly, is now made into *woodpulp*, from which paper is made.

4. History and Government.

Following on the discoveries of Columbus many adventurous English mariners tried to find a way to the Indies and Cathay by sailing to the north and west.

The names of *Frobisher, Davis, Baffin* and *Hudson* are kept in memory by the openings and seaways named after them in North America, but the **North-West Passage** they sought for so strenuously was not discovered until the reign of Victoria. When found it was useless, for it is choked with ice nearly the whole of the year.

The French first in modern times settled in Canada. One of their great seamen, *Jacques Cartier*, sailed up the St. Lawrence and planted a French colony near the magnificent river headland of Quebec. For a hundred

years the shores of the St. Lawrence were held by the French, the settlers slowly spreading farther inland by the riverways.

In 1759 *General Wolfe* captured Quebec for the English. From that time Canada has been English,

The Hudson Bay Company, before the days of Wolfe, had trading settlements or "forts" in the great North-West. Its lands have been absorbed in the Dominion.

The Dominion consists of the following provinces :—

The *Maritime Provinces* of *Nova Scotia*, *New Brunswick*, and *Prince Edward Island*, on the Atlantic seaboard ;

The *Eastern Provinces* of *Quebec* and *Ontario* ;

The *Central Provinces* of *Manitoba*, *Saskatchewan* and *Alberta*, occupying the great plain ;

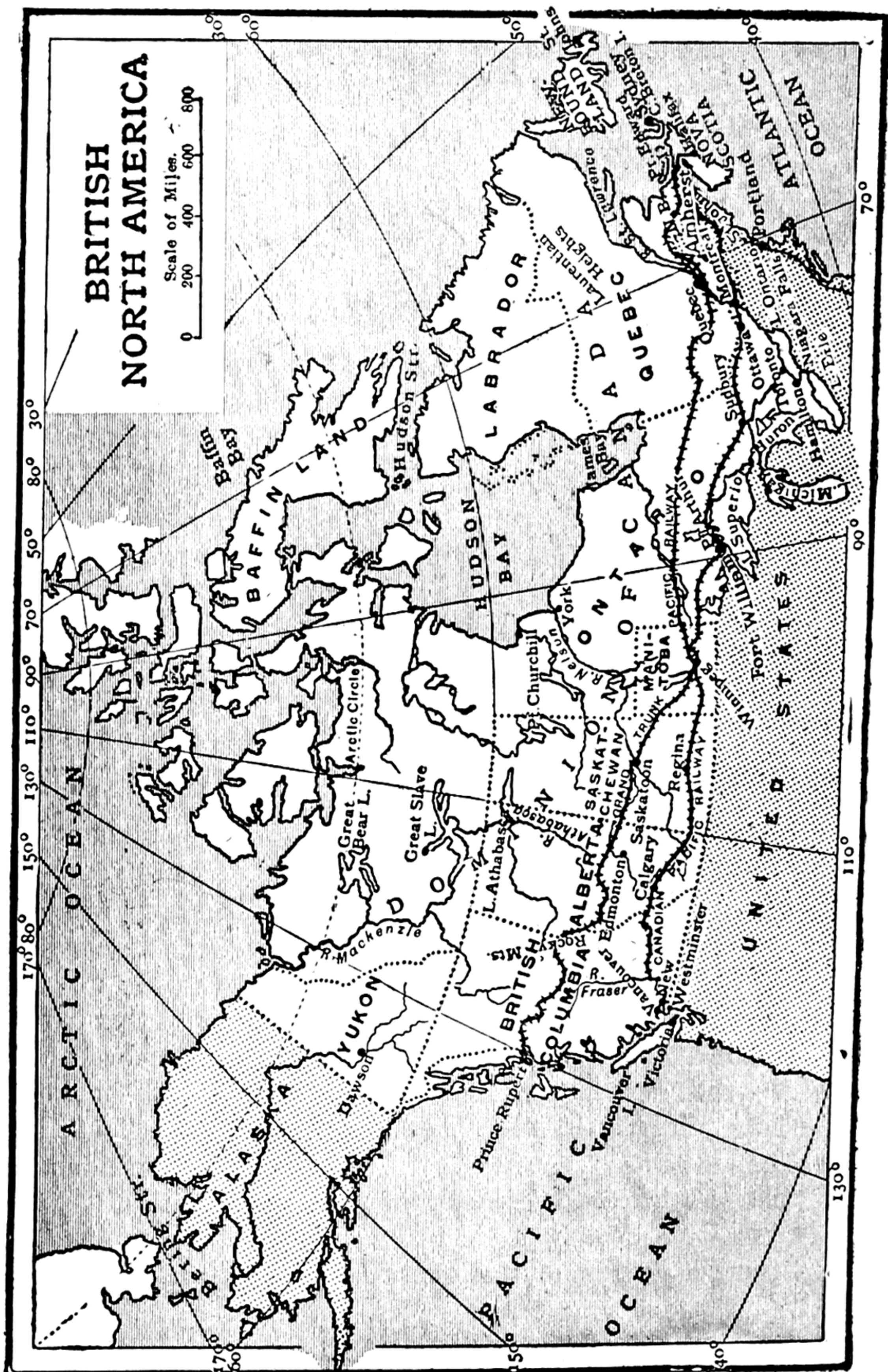
Northern Canada, comprising all the land north of 60° N., and consisting of *the North-West Territories*, between Hudson Bay and the Rocky Mountains ; and the *Yukon*, between the Rockies and Alaska.

There is a Governor-General, appointed by the King, for the whole Dominion ; and a **Parliament** elected by manhood suffrage. Each province has a lieutenant-governor and a council for local affairs, and sends representatives to the Dominion Parliament.

5. The Maritime Provinces.

The three maritime provinces have a long irregular coastline. Fogs are frequent. Enormous catches of fish—*cod*, *herring*, *halibut*, *mackerel* and *salmon*—make fishing very profitable. *Lobster* also is caught. Tinned salmon and lobster are exported. An industry dependent upon the fisheries is shipbuilding.

Nova Scotia is a peninsula ; between it and New Brunswick is the funnel-shaped Bay of Fundy, noted



for its high tides. Halifax, the capital, has a splendid harbour, open all the year round.

Cape Breton Island, at the northern extremity of Nova Scotia, has rich coal mines.

Fruit growing is one of the principal occupations in the province.

Prince Edward Island is the smallest province in the Dominion. It is often called the Garden of Canada. *Black and silver foxes* are reared for their fur.

New Brunswick has much forest land, and lumbering is the leading industry, woodpulp and boards being exported. There are *petroleum* wells. Market gardening, fruit culture, and dairy farming are of growing importance.

St. John is the largest town and seaport. Fredericton is the capital.

6. The Eastern Provinces.

Quebec and Ontario are the most populous provinces in the Dominion. Lumbering and agriculture are the chief occupations. *Cereals* ripen well. Dairy farming is developing and much *cheese* and *butter* are exported. *Maple sugar* is made from the sap of the maple tree.

Quebec Province lies on both sides of the lower St. Lawrence. Its people still speak French.

The northern part of Quebec, reaching to Ungava Bay, is quite wild country and in great contrast to the settled farming lands of the St. Lawrence Basin.

The town of **Quebec** stands magnificently on a jutting spur of rock. It is the tidal port of the St. Lawrence, and is the oldest city in Canada.

Montreal is "the commercial gate" of Canada. It is built on an island in the St. Lawrence. It is the largest city in the Dominion. Ocean-going steamers can easily reach its wharves. It trades in all the products of

Canada. It is a great railway centre and has important manufactures.

The province of **Ontario** stretches from the Great Lakes to Hudson Bay. Its people are of English descent. The climate is tempered by the Great Lakes, and the short, hot summers are admirable for ripening fruit. *Apples, pears, plums, peaches* and *grapes* grow to perfection. Great quantities of apples and other fruits are sent to the European markets.

Ontario is very rich in minerals. *Silver* is found in the Cobalt district, *nickel* and *copper* at Sudbury, *iron* and *petroleum* in various places. Northern Ontario is a wooded wilderness with scarcely any settled lands.

Toronto, on Lake Ontario, is the provincial capital. It is a handsome, well-built city.

Ottawa, on the Ottawa River, is the Dominion capital. The Parliament Buildings are very fine.

7. The Central Provinces.

Beyond Ontario lie the great wheat lands of Canada. The flat, treeless prairies are easily cultivated, and the soil yields fine crops of *wheat, oats* and *barley*. *Beans, flax, turnips* and *potatoes* also grow well. For many hundreds of miles in summer time, the plains of Manitoba and Saskatchewan stretch one vast expanse of ripening corn. 'Thousands of emigrants enter the wheatlands every year.

Winnipeg, the great city of the prairies, on the Red River in Manitoba, is a railway and milling centre, and one of the greatest wheat markets in the world.

Regina is the chief city in Saskatchewan. It is the headquarters of the Mounted Police.

Alberta is the great ranching country of the West, and on its grassy uplands are reared thousands of horses,

cattle and sheep. Stock can be left out in the open both during winter and summer.

There is much good lumber in the north. Fur animals abound. On the mountain slopes are great coal deposits. **Edmonton** is the provincial capital. Great stretches of land have been set aside as National Parks in Alberta. In one of them buffaloes are preserved.

8. Results of Trans-Continental Railways.

It was the building of the **Canadian Pacific Railway** which first opened up the provinces of the Central Plain. The C.P.R. runs from sea to sea, from *St. John* in New Brunswick, through *Quebec*, *Montreal* and *Ottawa*; then along the northern shores of the Great Lakes to *Port Arthur* on Lake Superior. From there it runs to *Winnipeg*, and on to *Regina* and *Calgary*. It crosses the Rocky Mountains by *Kicking Horse Pass* and reaches the Pacific at *Vancouver City* in British Columbia. The **Inter-Colonial Railway** connects it with *Halifax* in the east.

The chance of easy transport induced settlers to take up farms on the line of the C.P.R. Carrying the produce of these new farms made the railway prosperous, and quick transit brought the colonists into touch with the English market.

Such great success followed the opening up of the belt crossed by the C.P.R., that several new lines were built and others projected; one is to connect *Winnipeg* and the farmers of the prairie with *York* on Hudson Bay.

9. British Columbia.

British Columbia occupies the whole of Canada west of the Rocky Mountains and south of latitude 60°. It is a mountain land of fine scenery, thick forests, delightful valleys and rushing rivers.

Lumbering, fishing, mining and fruit-growing are the principal occupations. The soft, moist, warm atmosphere and absence of frost in the valleys make British Columbia very suitable for fruit growing. The Fraser and Columbia rivers abound with salmon.

The colony has vast mineral resources. *Gold, silver, copper, lead, coal and iron* are all mined. *Hops, sugar-beet and tobacco* are cultivated. *Oats, barley and roots* grow well. *Pigs* are reared.

Vancouver is the largest town. It has a fine natural harbour, and is the starting-port of steamer routes for Australia, China and Japan.

Victoria, on Vancouver Island, is a fine town with beautiful gardens.

10. The Yukon and the North-West.

The Yukon territory lies between the Rocky Mountains and Alaska. It is very rich in gold. **Dawson** is the chief city.

The North-West Territory at one time included all Canada between the St. Lawrence basin and British Columbia. It is now limited to the area between the Yukon and Hudson Bay north of 60° N. latitude. The greater part of both territories is icebound. Gold is the chief export from the Yukon, and furs from the North-West.

11. The Red Indians.

Some 100,000 of the original race of Red Indians remain. In the north they still wander freely; in the south they are gathered in great reserves. Some are now engaged in agriculture and ranching.

12. Manufactures and Trade.

Canadian manufactures are developing rapidly. The manufactures are those connected with lumbering and

farming. *Woodpulp* for paper, *paper* from woodpulp and alfalfa, *doors* and *window-frames*, *agricultural machinery*, *leather* from home-produced hides, *flour-milling* and preparing *tinned goods* are all important. *Boots* and *shoes* are made, *jam factories* are increasing in number, and so also are *sugar refineries*. Montreal and the older settled districts generally are the manufacturing centres.

13. Read *The Dog Crusoe*, *The Young Fur Traders*, *Hudson Bay*, *Ungava*, by Ballantyne; *Three Trappers*, by Daunt; *The Silver Horde*, by Rex Beach; *The Call of the Wild*, *White Fang*, by Jack London; *The Magnetic North*, by Robins; *The Blazed Trail*, by Stewart White; *Labrador*, by Grenfell; *The Great Dominion*, by Parkin; *Greater Canada*, by Osborn; *Canada As It Is*, by Foster Fraser; *In the Yukon*, by Edwards; *The Pioneers* and *Away in the Wilderness* (Nisbet).

14. Questions and Exercises.

1. Trace the map of British North America. From it make sketch maps to show the (i) surface features, (ii) rainfall, (iii) isotherms for summer and winter, (iv) natural vegetation, (v) crops, (vi) population.

2. Why should the thermometer at White City, north of the Great Lakes, often register 50° below zero, while in the Lake Peninsula it rarely falls more than a few degrees below zero?

3. Why should the wave of emigrants pass through North Ontario and settle on the prairies? Why do not the emigrants make farms between Hudson Bay and the north of Lake Superior?

4. What drawback is there to each of the great rivers of Canada as a trade outlet?

5. Why should so many people in Lower Canada speak French?

6. In what way has the use of steamships helped Canada? Has any other scientific process helped the fruit and dairy farmers of the Dominion?

7. In which part of Canada would you like to live? Why?

8. Compare the following by diagrams on squared paper:—Superior, 31,500 square miles; Michigan, 25,500; Huron, 24,000; Erie, 9600; Ontario, 7300; Ireland, 32,500; Scotland, 30,000; Newfoundland, 40,000.

9. Compare the lengths of the following rivers: Mississippi-Missouri, 4060 miles; St. Lawrence, 2500; Mackenzie, 2200; Shannon, 254; Thames, 215.

10. Compare graphically the following figures showing the population of Canada in different years: 1861, 3.1 million; 1871, 3.5 million; 1881, 4.3 million; 1891, 4.8 million; 1901, 5.4 million; 1911, 7.2 million; 1921, 8.7 million. How do you account for the increase each ten years?

VI. NEWFOUNDLAND

Newfoundland is Britain's oldest colony. It lies across the entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It is a little larger than Ireland. The coast is deeply indented. The interior is hilly, with many lakes and streams. The hill-slopes are forested, and there is a great trade in *timber* and *woodpulp*. *Copper* and *iron* are found.

The world's richest fishery is on the Banks of Newfoundland; *cod*, *halibut* and *herring* are caught in millions. Much salt fish is exported.

The banks are supposed to have been formed by the soil deposited by the melting icebergs at the place where the cold current which creeps down Baffin's Bay meets with the warm Gulf Stream from the Gulf of Mexico. The thick fogs so frequent in Newfoundland and the maritime provinces are due to the same cause.

St. John's is the largest town.

The strip of coast off the Labrador Peninsula from Belle Isle to Ungava Bay is under the Newfoundland Government.

Read *Captains Courageous*, by Kipling; *Newfoundland*, by Harvey; *Newfoundland* (Peeps Series), by Fairford.

Questions and Exercises.

1. Can you explain why a great newspaper company bought forest lands in Newfoundland?
2. Why should much of the Newfoundland cured fish be sent to South America and Southern Europe?
3. Why was little attention paid to agriculture in Newfoundland until recent years?

VII. SMALLER AMERICAN POSSESSIONS

1. The British West Indies and Tropical America.

(a) The **West Indies** are an extensive group of islands shutting in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean

Sea, and stretching from Florida in North America to the mouth of the *Orinoco* in South America. They are mainly volcanic, with coral reefs round the coast.

There are three chief groups, the *Bahamas*, the *Greater Antilles* and the *Lesser Antilles*. The climate is tropical, tempered by sea breezes. The rainfall is heavy. The heat is too great for white men to do hard manual labour. The population consists mainly of Negroes, descendants of the slaves imported from West Africa.

The soil is very productive. Tropical fruits of all kinds flourish. The *sugar-cane* is grown, and *sugar*, *rum* and *molasses* are exported. *Bananas* are sent to Britain in immense quantities. *Cotton*, *coffee*, *cocoa*, *tobacco*, *arrowroot*, *oranges* and *limes* are grown.

The **Bahamas** are the most northerly of the West Indies. They are small islands, cooler than those farther south. There are sponge and pearl fisheries off the coast. *Hemp* is grown. Pine-apples, tomatoes, and early vegetables are exported to the United States. The whole group is British.

Jamaica, one of the Greater Antilles, is the largest island belonging to Britain. There are many good harbours, but the coast is unhealthy for white people.

The Blue Mountains in the interior are clothed with luxuriant forests. The scenery is very fine.

The **Lesser Antilles** are the most southerly group. They are not all British. Barbados is the military and governing centre. Montserrat is noted for lime-juice.

(b) **Trinidad** is a fertile island near the mouth of the Orinoco River in South America. *Asphalt* is obtained from a natural pitch-lake. *Oil* is found. *Rubber* is cultivated.

(c) **British Honduras** is a small strip of country on the mainland of Central America. There are great forests containing mahogany and other valuable trees.

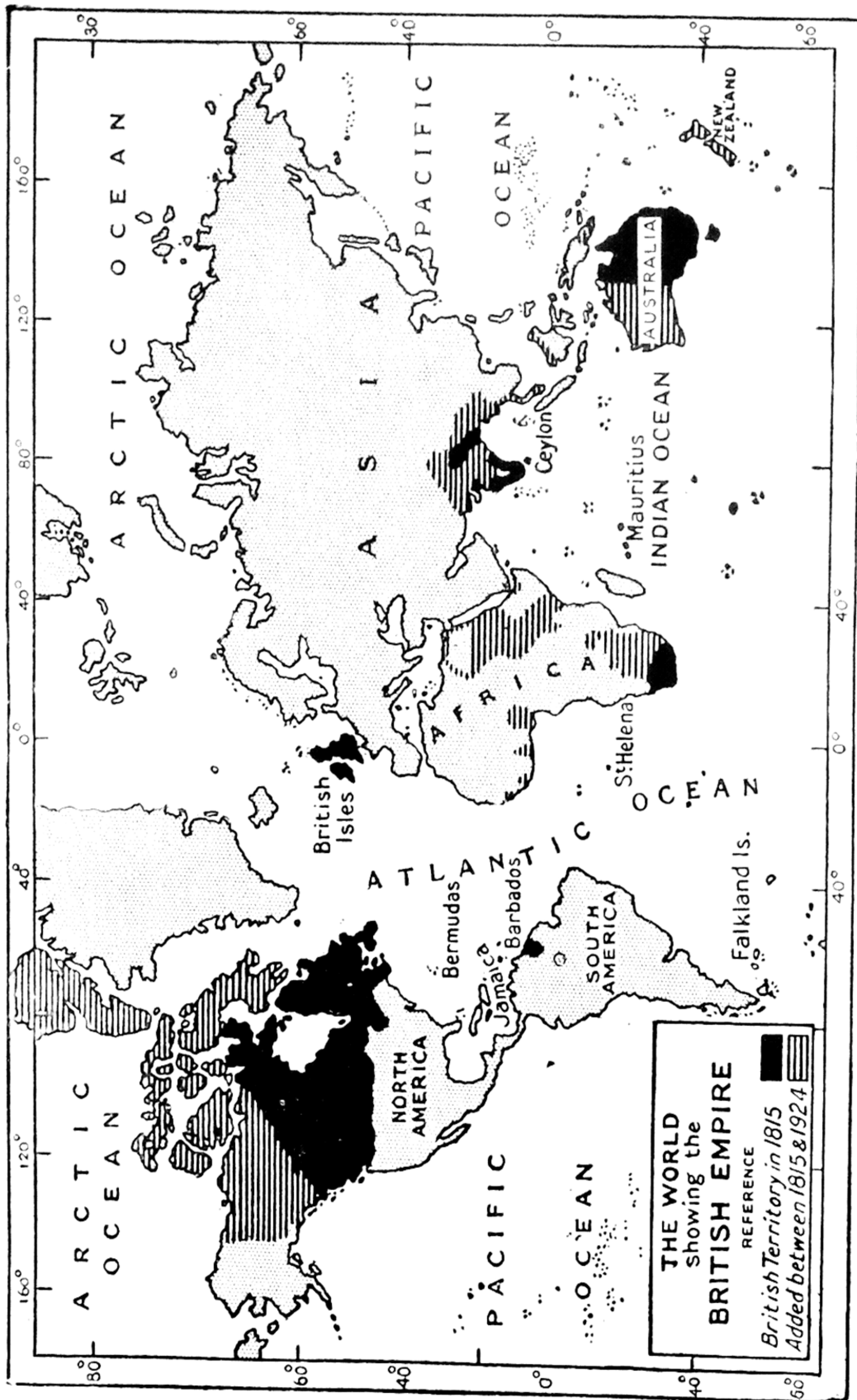
The tropical climate and heavy rainfall are suited to the growth of luxuriant vegetation. *Sugar* is cultivated, also *bananas* and *plantains*. The capital is Belize. It exports timber and bananas.

(d) **British Guiana** is the only British possession on the mainland of South America. The interior is mountainous and the hill slopes are covered with forests. The coast-plain is unhealthy for white people, and the work is done by Indian coolies.

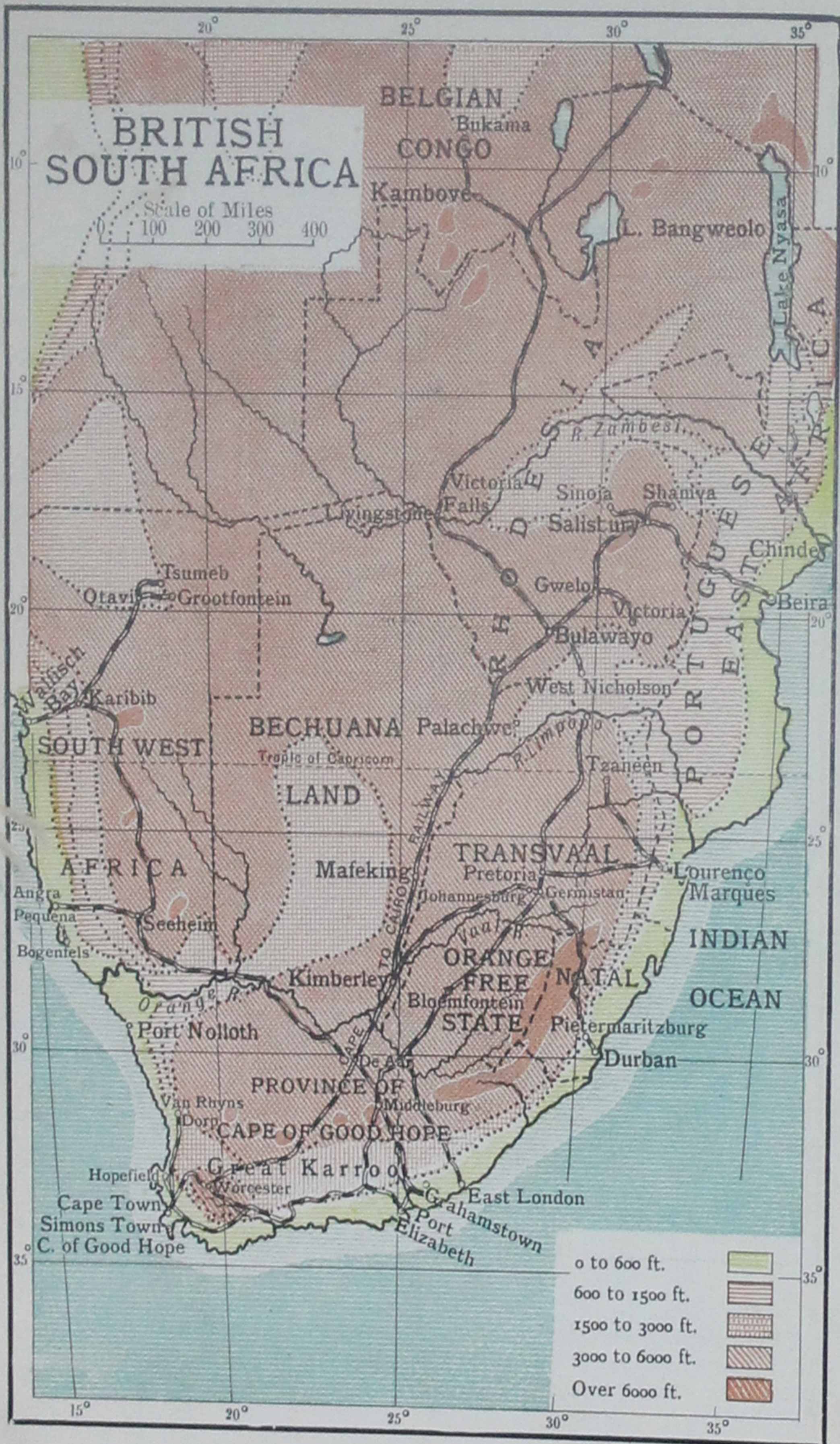


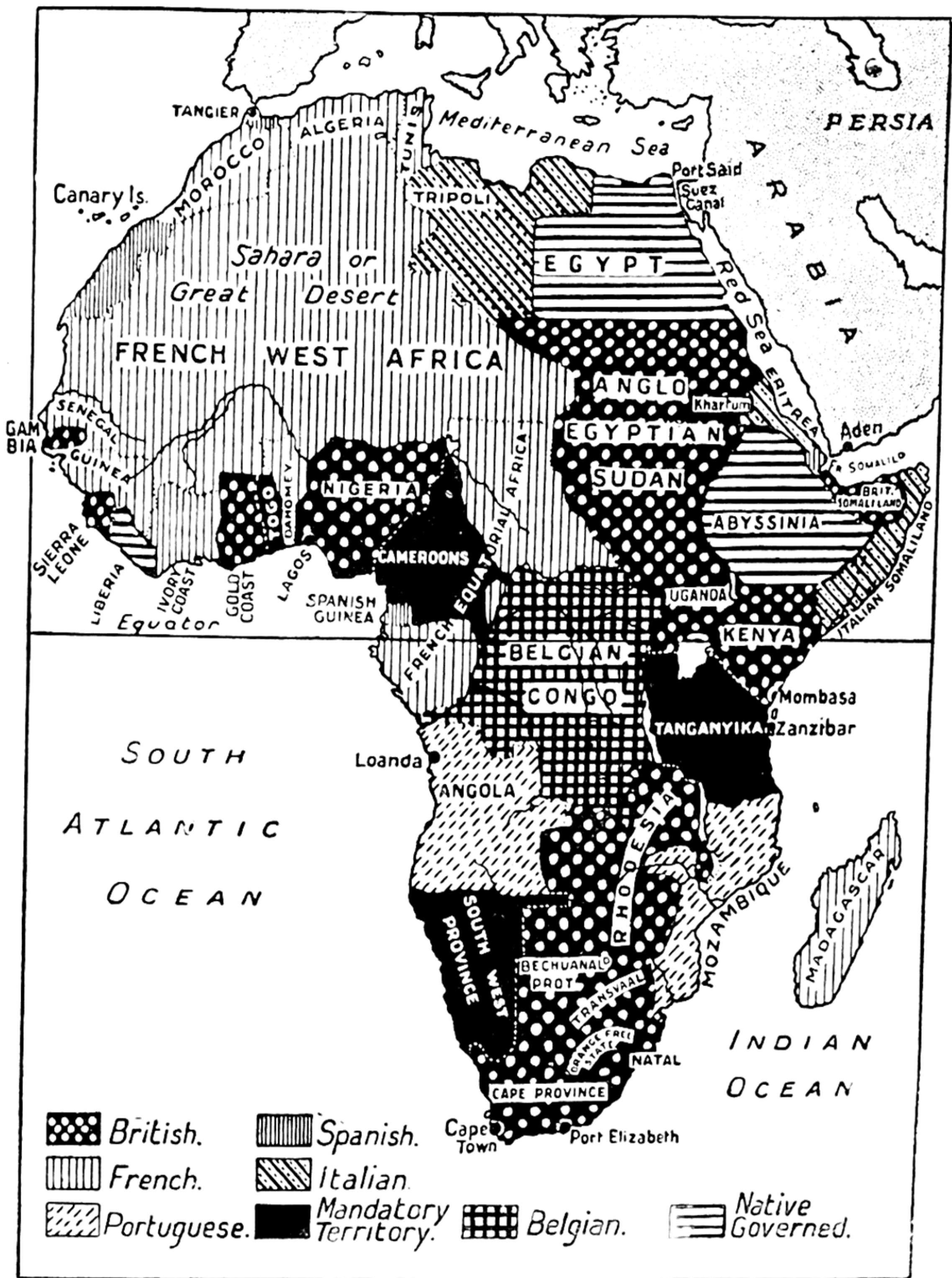
Maize is grown. "*Demerara*" sugar, *cayenne* pepper, *timber* and *gutta-percha* are exported. Georgetown, on the Demerara River, is the capital.

2. **The Bermudas** are a group of small islands in the North Atlantic, about half-way between Halifax and the West Indies. They are of importance as a naval base. The climate is mild, with no frosts and no great summer heat. Many of the people are Negroes. Early fruits and vegetables are sent to the towns on the American coast.









A POLITICAL MAP OF AFRICA

The former German Colonies, shown in black, are now administered as Mandatory Territories by Britain (TANGANYIKA), the Union of South Africa (SOUTH-WEST PROVINCE), and France (jointly responsible with Britain for TOGOLAND and the CAMEROONS).

3. **The Falkland Isles** lie off the coast of South America, at its southern extremity. The climate is damp, windy and foggy. Sheep are reared. The islands are important as a calling place for ships.

4. Several unimportant islands in the South Atlantic and Antarctic Oceans are used as food-depots for ship-wrecked sailors.

South Georgia is a part of the frozen land mass of Antarctica around the South Pole.

5. Read *West Indies*, by Eves; *West Indies*, by Bates; *British West Indies*, by Aspinall; *Tropical America*, by Ford; *Jamaica*, by Burry; *Glimpses of Life in Bermuda*, by Newton; *Prince Rupert the Buccaneer*, by Hyne; and stories of Antarctic exploration.

6. Questions and Exercises.

1. Compare the life of a boy in Jamaica with that of a boy in Newfoundland.

2. Why is Newfoundiand much more important than the Falkland Isles?

3. Would it be better for an English farmer to emigrate to Trinidad or to Saskatchewan? Why?

4. Why does the Canadian Government offer 160 acres of land free to each man settling on the Western Prairie?

5. Why are most of the people of Jamaica black?

6. "Canada exports the necessaries of life, the West Indies export the luxuries." How far is the statement true?

7. Can you suggest any reasons for Britain owning such large possessions in North America, and only one small colony in South America?

8. From what three vegetable growths is sugar obtained in large quantities? Which might be grown in England? Which needs a tropical climate?

9. Make a sketch map of the West Indies and the mainland near. Mark the British possessions.

10. Make a sketch map of the North Atlantic, showing steamer routes.

11. Could a merchant send goods to China by a western route? Describe any route you think possible.

PART IV

THE GREAT SOUTHERN LANDS

VIII. AUSTRALIA

1. Surface.

The island continent of Australia lies wholly south of the Equator. To the same land formation belong *New Guinea* in the north and *Tasmania* in the south. Torres Strait lies between New Guinea and Australia, and Bass Strait between Tasmania and Australia.

Along the north-east coast for a distance of 1200 miles stretches the *Great Barrier Reef*, a coral formation broken here and there by narrow channels.

The largest inlets are the *Gulf of Carpentaria* in the north ; the *Great Australian Bight*, *Spencer Gulf* and the *Gulf of St. Vincent* in the south.

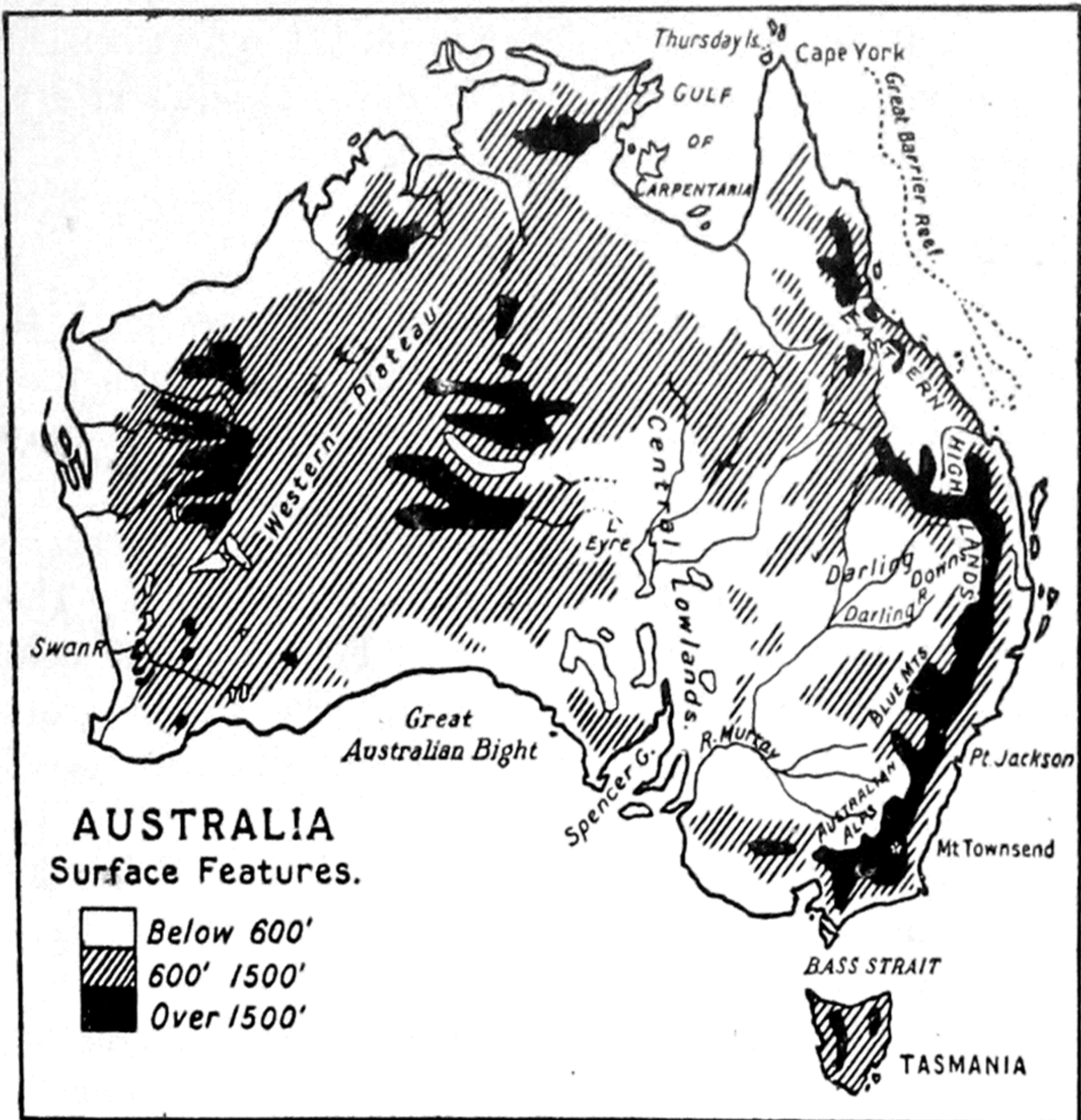
The greater part of Australia is a low plateau, rising steeply from a narrow coast plain. It is crossed by low ranges in the centre and is ringed round by high lands. None of the heights are above the limits of perpetual snow.

The three main physical divisions of Australia may be described as :—

- (i) The Eastern Highlands ;
- (ii) The Central Lowlands ;
- (iii) The Western Plateau.

(i) The **Eastern Highlands** consist of several partly parallel ranges with tablelands between. They stretch

from *Cape York* in the north to the extreme south. They are lowest and broadest in the north. To the south they are higher, and present a bold, steep, rugged face on the seaward side. Narrow gullies with precipitous sides form the only roads through. Mount Townsend (7500 feet) in the Kosciusko Group, part of the Australian



Alps in the south-east, is the highest peak. North of the Australian Alps the heights are known as the Blue Mountains.

(ii) The **Central Lowlands** extend from the Gulf of Carpentaria to the extreme south. In the south-west there is a series of brackish, shallow lakes; Torrens, Eyre and Gairdner are the chief. Two ridges of higher

land divide the Central Lowlands into three river basins. The south-east part is the basin of the Murray-Darling. The middle or lake part of the lowlands is a basin of inland drainage.

The northern part of the lowlands is an extension of the coast plain around the Gulf of Carpentaria.

(iii) The **Western Plateau** reaches an average height of over 1000 feet. It is higher towards the north. The soil is mainly weathered granite and is sterile and dry. Much of the interior is actual desert.

2. Climate.

The climate varies from tropical in the north to warm temperate in the south, where it resembles that of Southern Europe. It is on the whole warm, sunny and healthy, but dry.

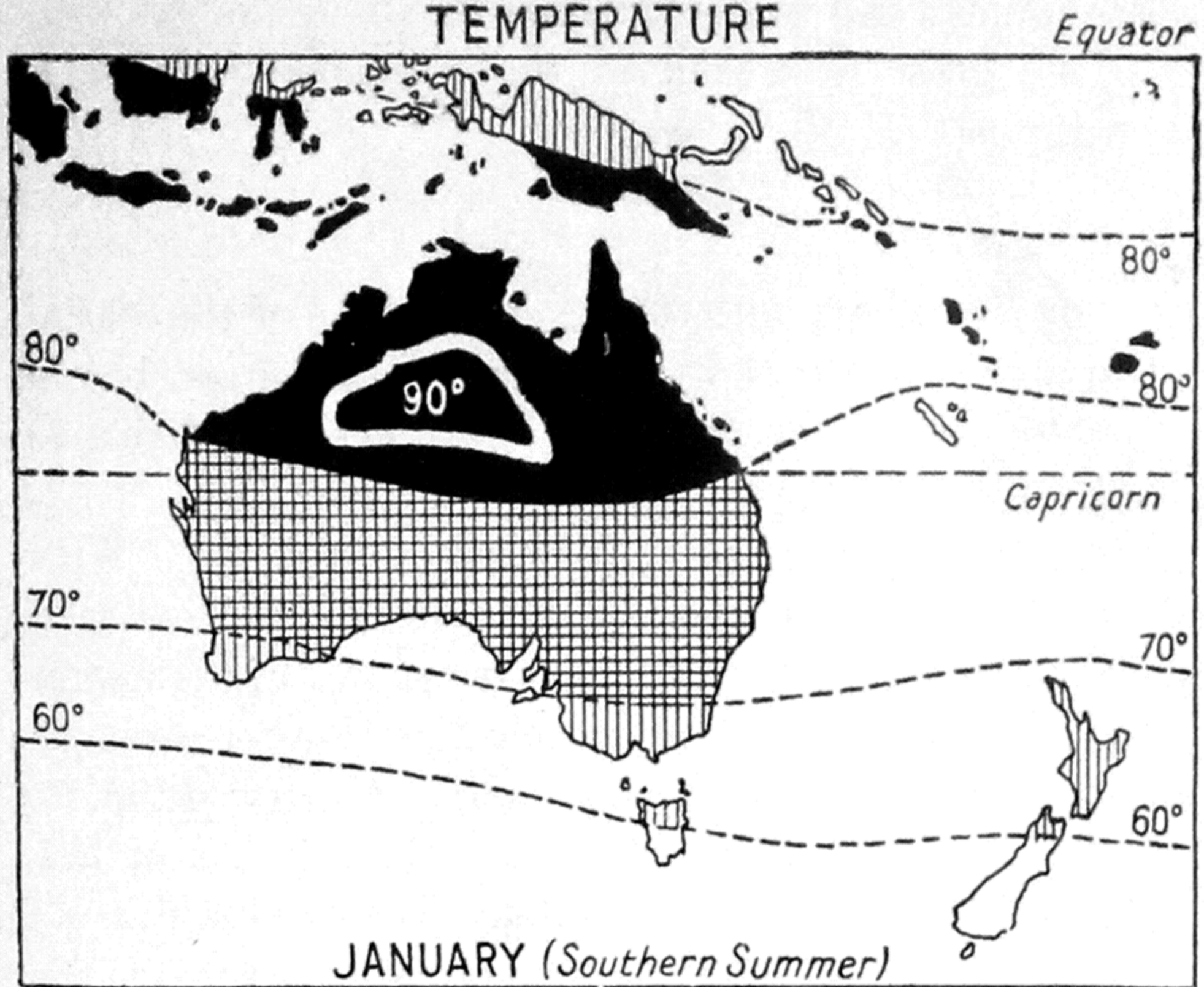
Lying wholly south of the Equator its seasons occur at opposite times in the year to those of Britain. The warmest months are January and February, the cold months are June, July and August. There is no great winter cold. Snow falls in the mountain districts of the south-east.



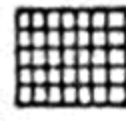

The isotherms for summer vary from 90° in the north to 70° in the south. For the cold season they vary from 70° in the north to 50° in the south.

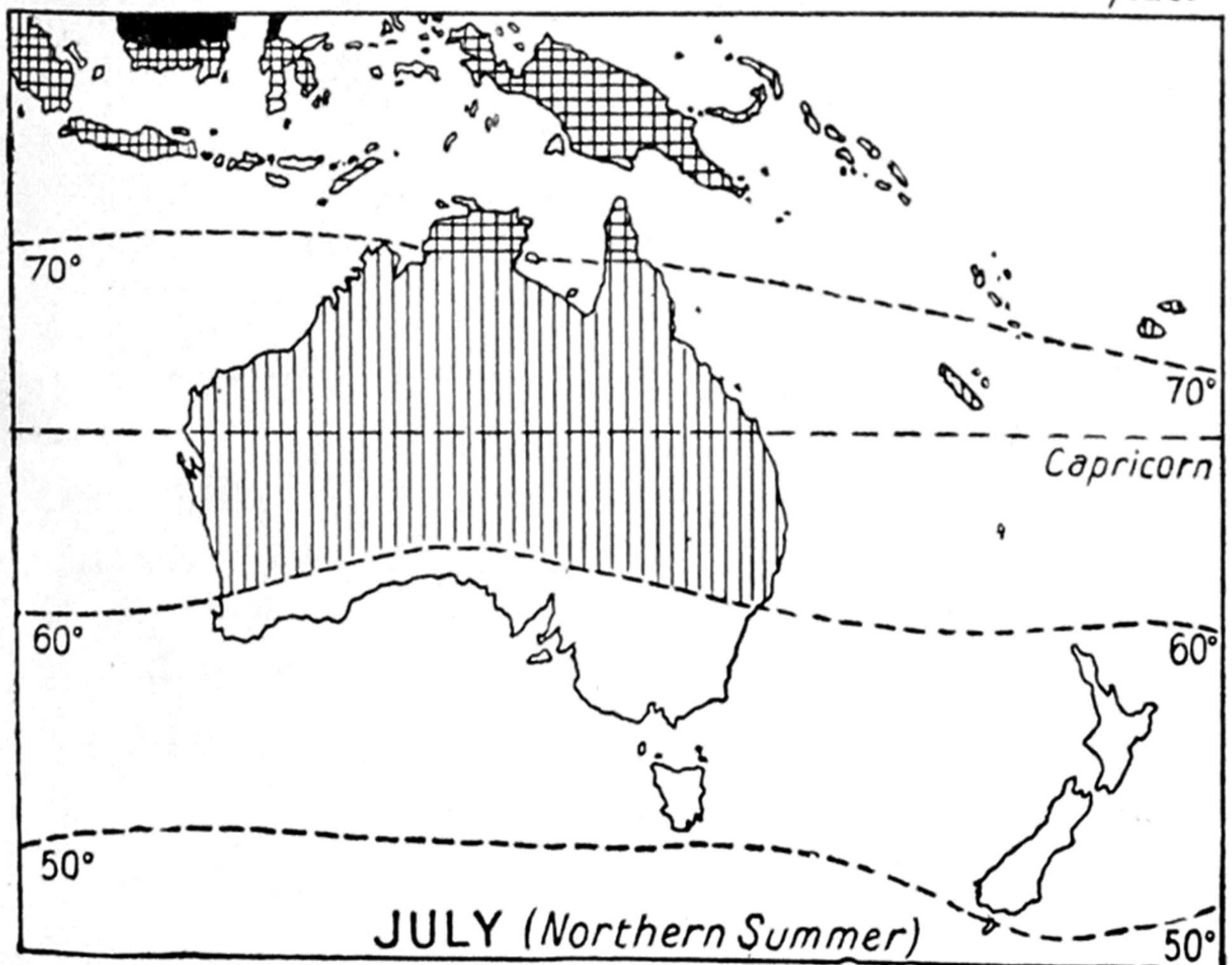
The rainfall is mainly "seasonal," and varies greatly. The northern and north-western coasts receive as much as 80 inches per year, but over a great part of the continent it is under 10 inches.

Much of Northern Australia is within the area of the south-east Trade Winds, which take copious rains to the east coast. On the north-east and northern coasts, as in India, the winds are monsoons, and the wet monsoon drenches the coast plain. The south-west corner and the extreme southerly extension lying east of the Great

AUSTRALASIA TEMPERATURE



- | | |
|---|--|
|  Very Hot (The inner black area is over 90°) |  Warm 60° |
|  Hot 70° |  Cool under 60° Equator |



Bight resemble the Mediterranean lands, having warm dry summers and winter rains.

The great drawback to the Australian climate is drought.

3. Rivers.

The rivers vary with the season. Those of the coastal plain are generally rapid in their upper courses, but in their lower sections are navigable. They are liable to sudden floods.

The Murray is the principal river of Australia. With the Darling it is 1550 miles long. It rises in the Kosciusko Group, and being fed by the melting snows of the mountain tops, maintains a considerable flow of water throughout the year. Its mouth is too shallow for navigation.

The Darling is longer than the Murray, but of less volume. It drains the magnificent Darling Downs.

Cooper's Creek and the other rivers draining the central part of the lowlands to Lake Eyre are fine streams after the rains, but gradually lessen in volume as the dry season advances, and become just a succession of shallow pools scattered at irregular intervals along a parched, stony bed. The lakes of this inland drainage area often shrink in summer to a quarter of their size.

4. Native Vegetation.

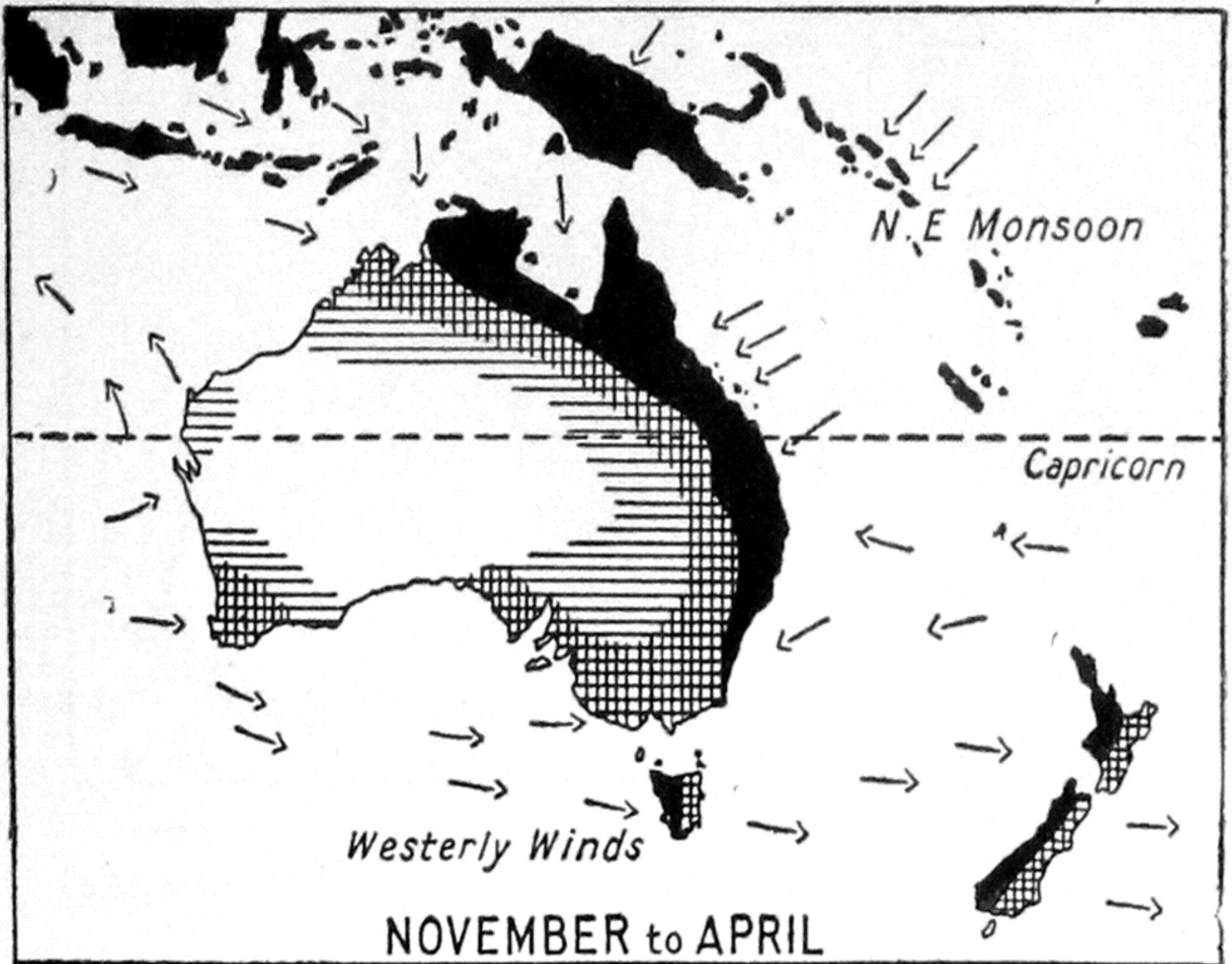
The native trees and plants are such as can withstand the hot dry summers and recurring droughts. The trees are mainly evergreens. They shed their bark. The leaves hang edgewise. Forests cover the coast plain and the seaward slopes of the hills, where the rainfall is good. Most of the trees are *eucalypti* (gum trees) or *acacias*. The *jarrah* grows largely on the western coasts. Its timber is hard and durable.

The densely-wooded areas are succeeded by open

AUSTRALASIA

WINDS AND RAIN

Equator



Heavy Rain



Light Rain

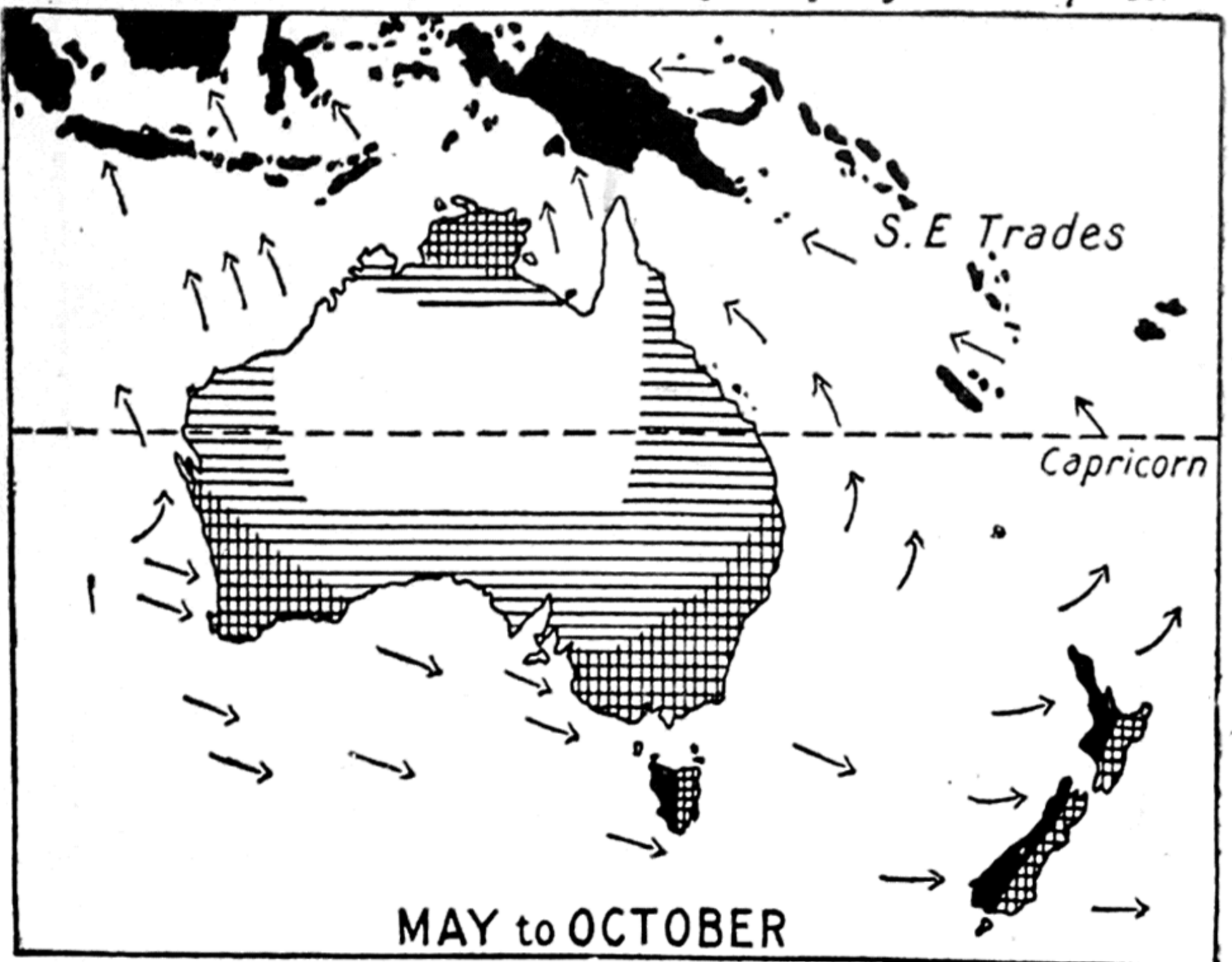


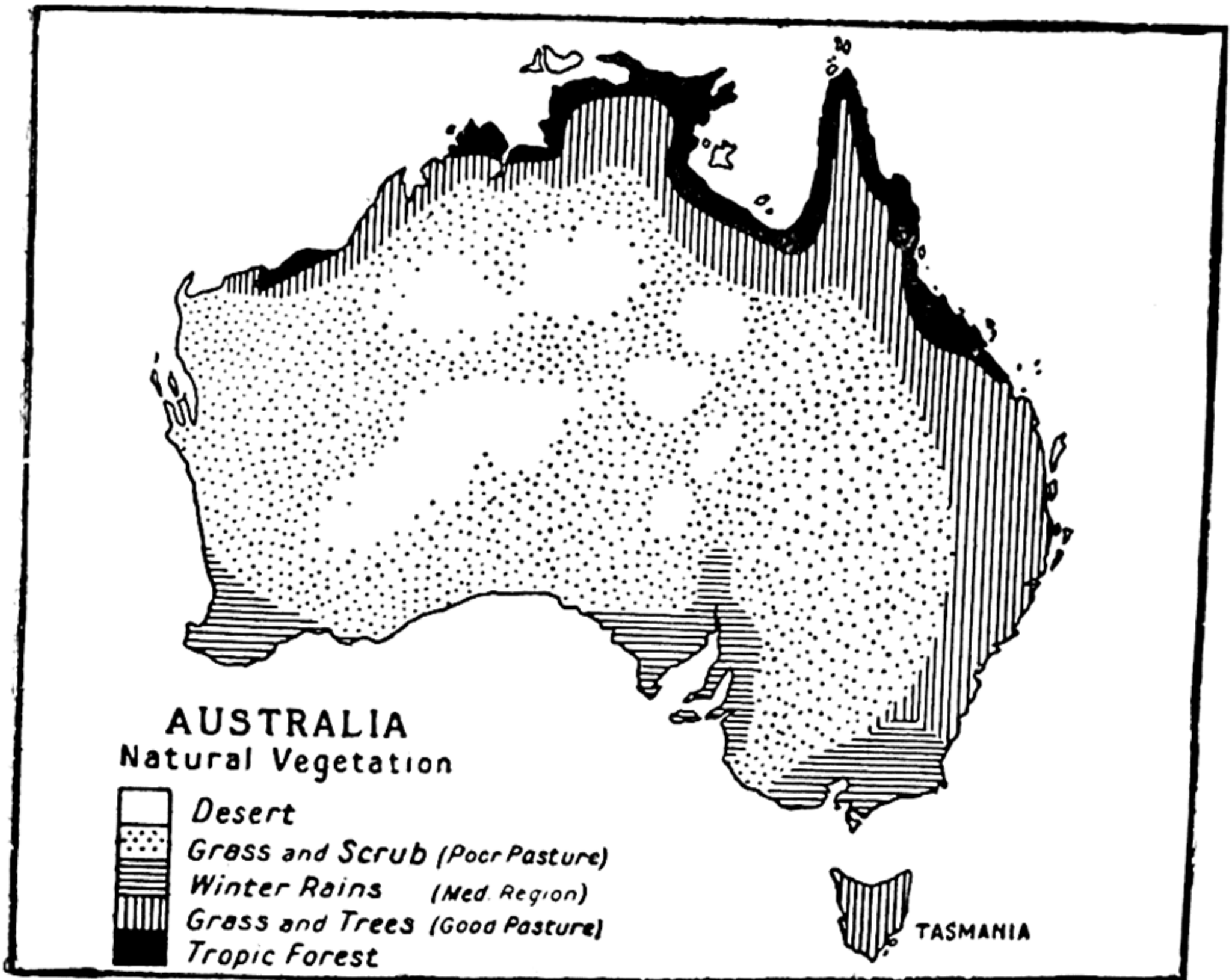
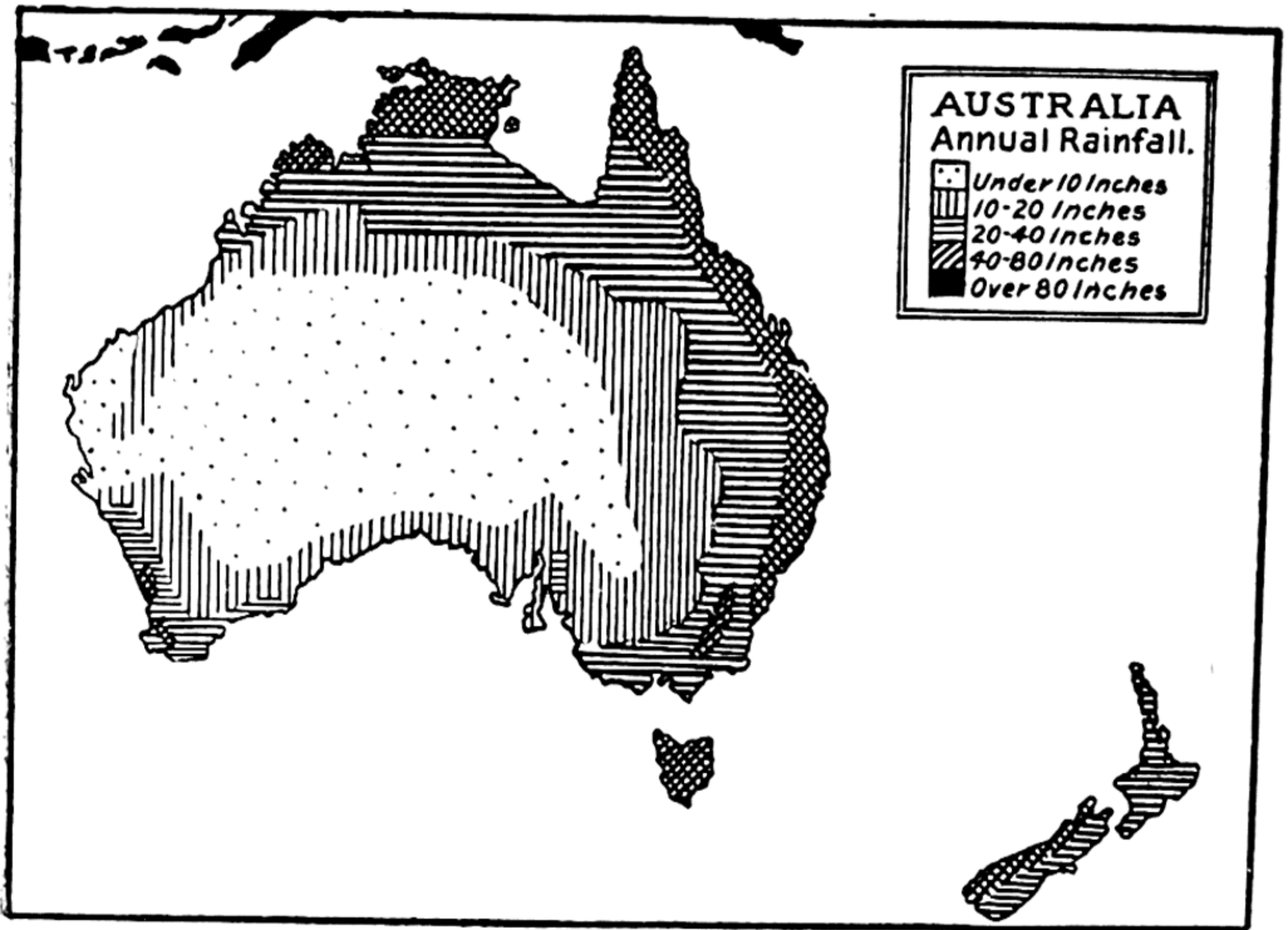
Rain



Dry & Very Dry

Equator





park-like country dotted with clumps of trees. These open woodlands are followed farther inland by grassy undulating plains stretching for many miles.

In some districts too dry for grass there is "salt-bush," on which both sheep and cattle thrive. Beyond the grass and salt-bush lands is "scrub." Beyond the scrub the country changes to bare, inhospitable desert.

Many square miles of "scrub" are covered with spinifex or "porcupine" grass. Horses will not enter it. Other scrub is formed of matted acacia bushes with spines several inches long.

There is a great variety of flowering plants.

5. Native Animals.

Most of the native animals are "marsupials" or pouched animals. The best known is the *kangaroo*. The kangaroo's fore legs are short, useless for travelling, but its hind legs and tail are well developed. Other pouched animals are the *opossum*, *wombat* and *bandicoot*.

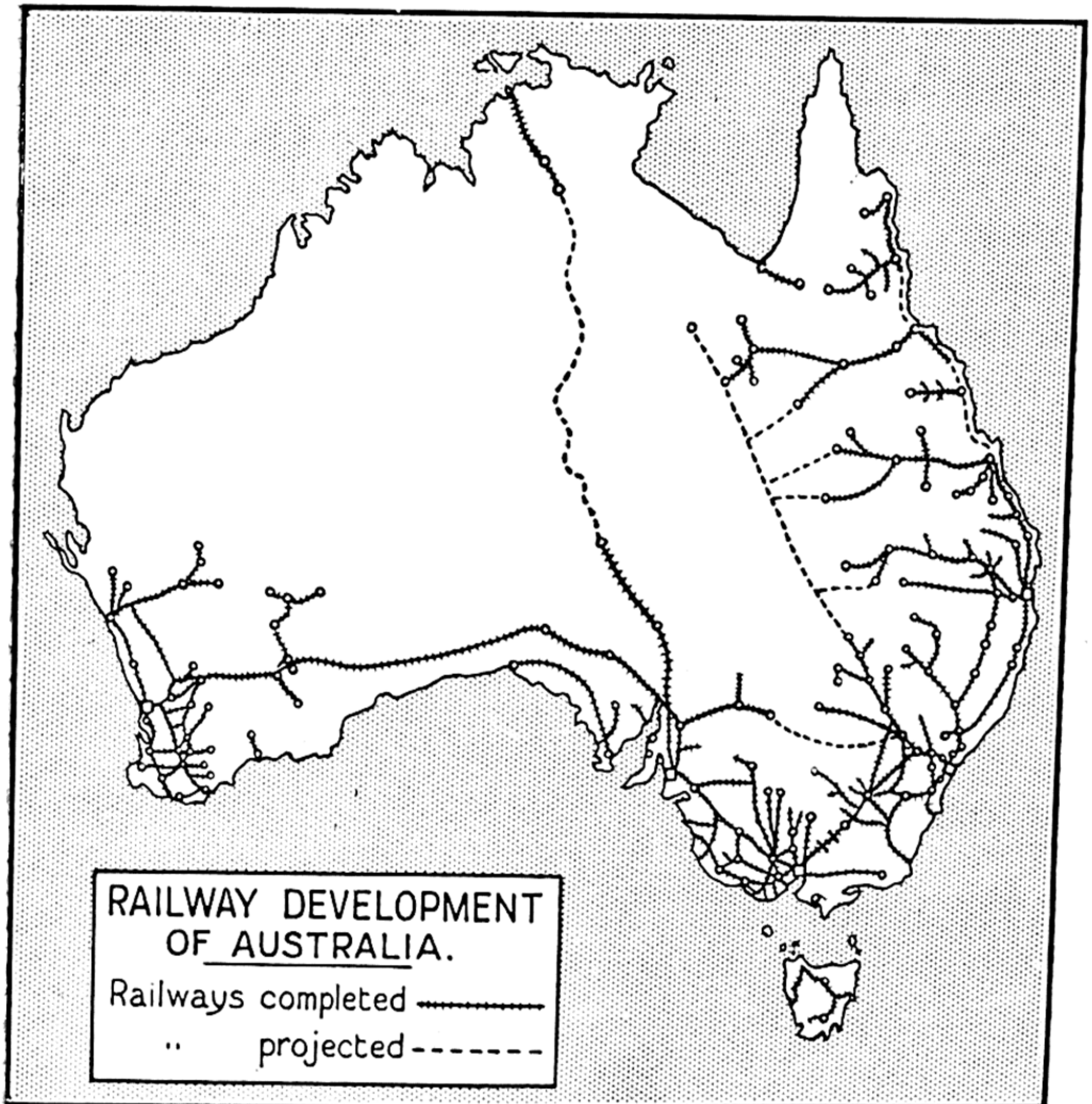
Troops of *dingoes* or wild dogs are found. The strangest animal is the *platypus*, or duck-billed water mole. It has a bill like a duck, hair like a mole, and lays eggs.

There are many kinds of *snakes*. Some are poisonous. Birds are numerous. They have gorgeous plumage, but do not sing. *Parrots* and *cockatoos* abound. The "*laughing-jackass*" is most famous. The native swans are black. The biggest bird is the *emu*. It is akin to the ostrich.

6. The Australian Natives.

The Australian natives are debased and unintelligent. They are brown in colour, with wavy hair and full beards. Their food is chiefly small animals, birds, snakes, lizards and grubs.

They have no settled government nor, apparently, any religion other than some low form of "tabu" and dances called "corroborees." They practise no husbandry. Their weapons are wooden and stone clubs and spears, but they also use very cleverly a curious curved, wooden missile called the *boomerang*.



7. History and Development.

Australia is now a Commonwealth, a federal union of the several states of *Queensland*, *New South Wales*, *Victoria*, *South Australia*, *West Australia* and *Tasmania*. The part known as *Northern Territory*, and a district of

400 square miles around **Canberra**, the new federal capital on the upper Murray, are under the direct administration of the federal government. There are some 5½ million white people.

Geographers had for long believed in a Terra Australis, or Southern Land. Nothing was really known of it until the Dutch, pressing south and east from their trading settlements in the East Indies, sighted it and named it New Holland.

Captain Cook explored the eastern coast. He took possession of it for Britain, and named it New South Wales. A convict settlement was established at Port Jackson, near Botany Bay, in 1788. From this settlement has grown the splendid city of **Sydney**, the oldest and largest town in Australia and the capital of New South Wales. Its harbour, Port Jackson, is one of the finest in the world.

The settlement progressed slowly at first. It was hemmed in between the mountains and the sea. The crops grown by the convicts were scanty, and there were no native food plants to eke out the supplies sent from England. Free settlers were few.

A great drought in 1813 forced a strenuous search for new pastures, and two settlers found their way over the rugged Blue Mountains to the grassy downs beyond. From that time Australia began to take her place as a great wool-producing country.

New centres were opened later on Port Phillip, on the slopes of the Flinders Range overlooking the Gulf of St. Vincent, on the Swan River and on the Brisbane River. These settlements have developed into the large and handsome cities of **Melbourne**, **Adelaide**, **Perth** and **Brisbane**, the capitals of the states of Victoria, South Australia, West Australia and Queensland. **Melbourne**, at the head of Port Phillip, is the great centre for the

over-sea trade of Australia, and next to Sydney in the size of its population.

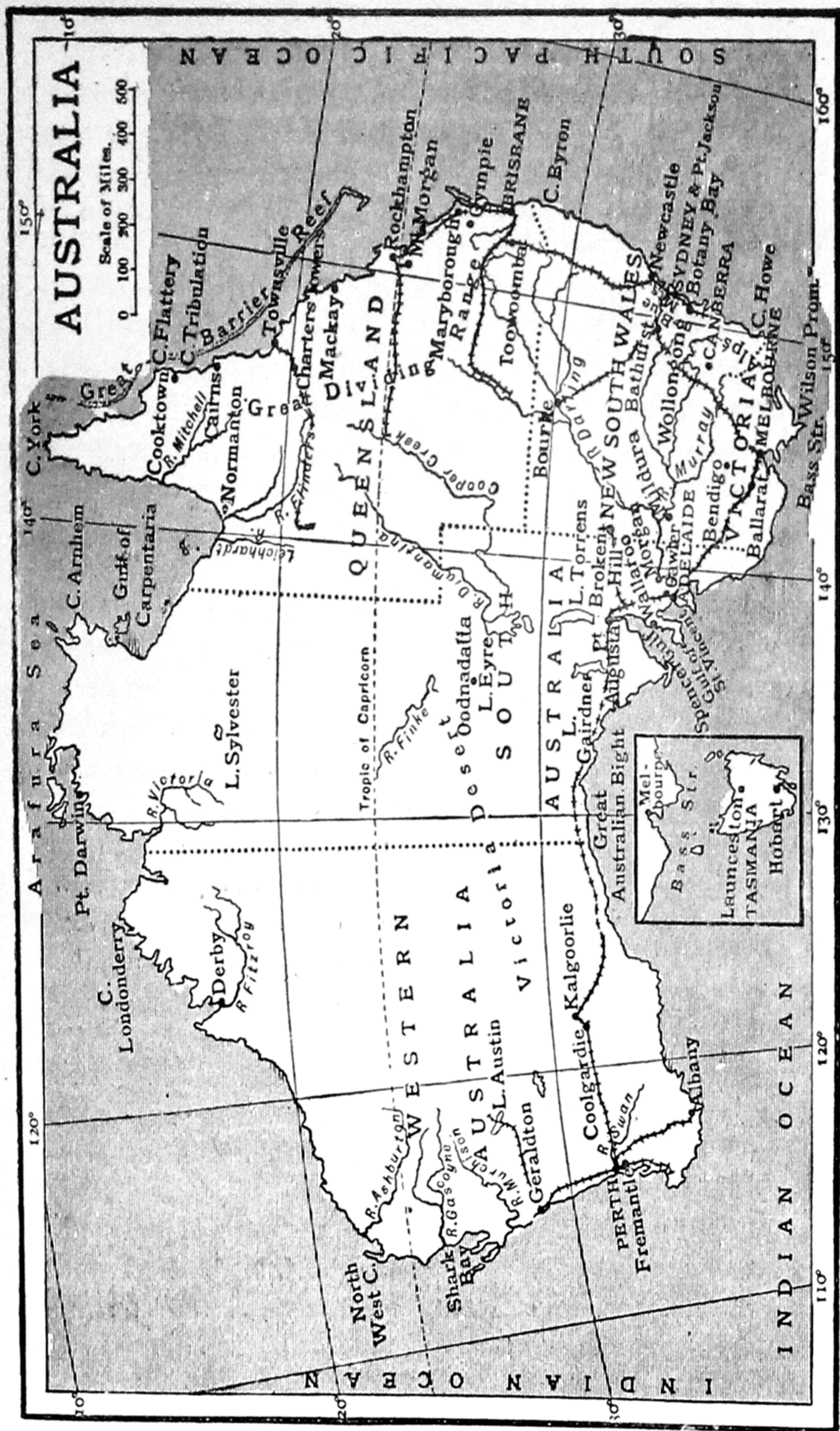
The great droughts, the lack of means of communication and of capital, hindered the growth of the various colonies, and it was not until the discovery of gold that Australia got the people and the money necessary for rapid progress.

Gold was found in 1851 at *Bathurst* in New South Wales, and a little later at *Ballarat* and *Bendigo*, on the flanks of the Grampians in Victoria. Men of all trades flocked to the "diggings," squatters, farmers, lawyers, and doctors. Soldiers and sailors deserted, policemen left their beats, and men from the home country poured into Australia by thousands. The population doubled, then trebled; and though many gold-diggers died from exposure, hard work and scanty food, yet great numbers settled down in the new country as farmers and sheep-owners. Since that time Australia has steadily progressed. Sturt, Burke and Wills, Stuart and other hardy explorers, risking their lives in the great drought and heat of the sandy deserts, found much good land in the interior, and the area under flocks and herds grew year by year.

8. Minerals.

The whole of Australia is auriferous, but the great gold centres now are near *Kalgoorlie*, in West Australia, on the desert edge. The richest single mine was *Mount Morgan*, near Rockhampton in Queensland.

Australia is extraordinarily rich in minerals. Besides gold—silver, copper, lead, tin, coal and oilshale are found in great quantities. Precious stones, antimony, asbestos and many others are found in places. Silver is mined at *Broken Hill* in New South Wales. Copper is found in the centre of New South Wales and in South Australia.



Tin is worked in Queensland and New South Wales. Coal is extensively mined at *Newcastle*, on the Hunter River, in New South Wales. It is also found in many parts of Queensland, and at *Bunbury*, in the south-east corner of West Australia. The mines are worked by white labour. Pearls are found near Thursday Island in Torres Strait.

9. Agriculture.

The fertile arable lands of Australia are estimated to be a quarter of its area. Another quarter is desert. The remainder is pasture land, some good, some poor.

All European plants and fruits flourish in the temperate districts, and tropical fruits do well in the northern tropic area.

Australian *wheat* is of first-class quality. *Apples*, *pears*, *plums*, *cherries* and *strawberries* grow well. The *vine*, *orange* and *currant* are cultivated in the two parts having a Mediterranean climate. *Peaches* and *apricots* are grown in the Mildura district of Victoria, irrigated from the Murray, near the Darling junction. Wheat, wine, butter, apples and tinned fruits are exported.

The tropical portion of the Queensland coast plain produces *sugar* and *rice* on its lower levels. *Maize*, *cotton* and *tobacco* are grown higher up, and on the hill-slopes *tea* and *coffee* do well. *Coco-nuts* and *bananas* also are grown.

Sheep and cattle flourish wherever grass will grow. Horses are reared on the wide-spreading downs of Queensland. The sheep number millions. Wool, tallow, hides and frozen mutton are exported in immense quantities. Rabbits, introduced in the early days, are now a pest.

The great problem of Australian farming is the water supply. Many of its arid wastes blossom into fertile fields and gardens when irrigated. Much land, once

regarded as impossible for sheep and cattle, has been made good by the use of artesian wells, which provide a steady supply of water.

10. Communications.

Good means of transport is of prime importance in opening up new countries. In early days the separate colonies of Australia could communicate easily only by sea. Farmers, squatters and mine-owners found it difficult to get their goods to the coast. Railways now radiate from the state capitals in the south-eastern, thickly settled districts, and lines run from the important mines to the nearest seaport. Rockhampton, Brisbane, Newcastle, Sydney, Albury (where the line crosses the Murray), Melbourne and Adelaide are joined by railway. From Adelaide a line runs to the goldfields of West Australia, where it links up with the West Australian system radiating from Perth. The railway development of Australia can be studied from the maps on pages 58 and 61.

A trans-continental telegraph line crosses from Adelaide to Palmerston, on Port Darwin, in the north of the continent.

11. Tasmania.

Tasmania is a little smaller in area than Scotland. It is a mountainous island with a bold, rugged coastline. High peaks overlook fertile valleys, where sheep and cattle graze and all European cereals and fruits flourish. Tasman, a Dutch navigator, discovered the island.

The climate is warm and genial. The rainfall is sufficient for all agricultural needs. Tasmania lies in the track of the westerly winds.

Minerals are abundant. Gold, silver, tin and coal are worked. *Wool, wheat, tin, butter, jam and apples* are exported.

Hobart is the capital. It is joined by rail to **Launceston**, on the Tamar, in the north of the island.

12. New Guinea.

Papua, or New Guinea, lies on a continental shelf to the northward of Australia. After Australia, it is the largest island in the world.

The island is mountainous. The chief lowlands are in the south.

The climate is tropical. The north receives the full drenching downpour of a wet north-east monsoon.

Little is known of the interior, but the mountain slopes are covered with thick tropical forests. Wild animals and birds are abundant. The handsome Bird of Paradise is native to New Guinea.

The natives of the interior are wild and savage. The western part is Dutch. The south-east is British. The north-east was formerly German, but is now administered by Australia. **Port Moresby** is the capital. The chief productions are *coco-nuts*, *copra* and *rubber*. Gold and oil have been found in places.

13. Read *Australia*, by Foster Fraser; *Australasia*, by Tilby; *Australian Pictures*, by Willoughby; *History of Discovery in Australia*, by Howitt; *Natives of Australia*, by Thomas; *Among Cannibals*, by Lumholtz; *Advance Australia*, by H. Finch Hatton; *New South Wales*, by Griffin; *British New Guinea*, by Thomson; *Papuan Fairy Tales*, by Ker; *Two Years among New Guinea Cannibals*, by Pratt; *It's Never too Late to Mend* (2nd part), by Charles Reade; *Dingo Boys*, by Fenn; *In the Land of Pearl and Gold*, by A. Macdonald; *Captain Cook's Adventures*, by R. M. Ballantyne (Nisbet).

14. Questions and Exercises.

1. Make a "template" of Australia. (Trace the outline of Australia on thin cardboard and cut out the shape.) From it make sketch maps to show: — (i) surface, (ii) river systems, (iii) rainfall and winds, (iv) natural vegetation, (v) crops, (vi) minerals, (vii) railways.

2. Model Australia in cardboard or clay.
3. Why should the coastline round the Great Australian Bight be almost rainless? Can you suggest a reason for the desert extending almost to the sea around the Bight?
4. In what respects does Northern Queensland resemble India?
5. Why should the land around the central ranges be less infertile than that to the north and south?
6. Why should the rivers of Australia vary so much in volume?
7. If the Eastern Highlands were as high as the Himalaya, would it make any difference to the farmers of Riverina, or of the Darling Downs?
8. Why did some of the explorers of the Australian interior use camels? What difficulties did they meet with?
9. In what way is the West Riding of Yorkshire dependent upon Australia?
10. What great contrasts are there between Canada and Australia?
11. What is the advantage to inland navigation of rain at all seasons of the year?
12. Represent graphically the following: Murray, 1300 m.; Murray-Darling, 1550 m.; Hunter, 300 m.; Thames, 215 m.; Nile, 3680 m.

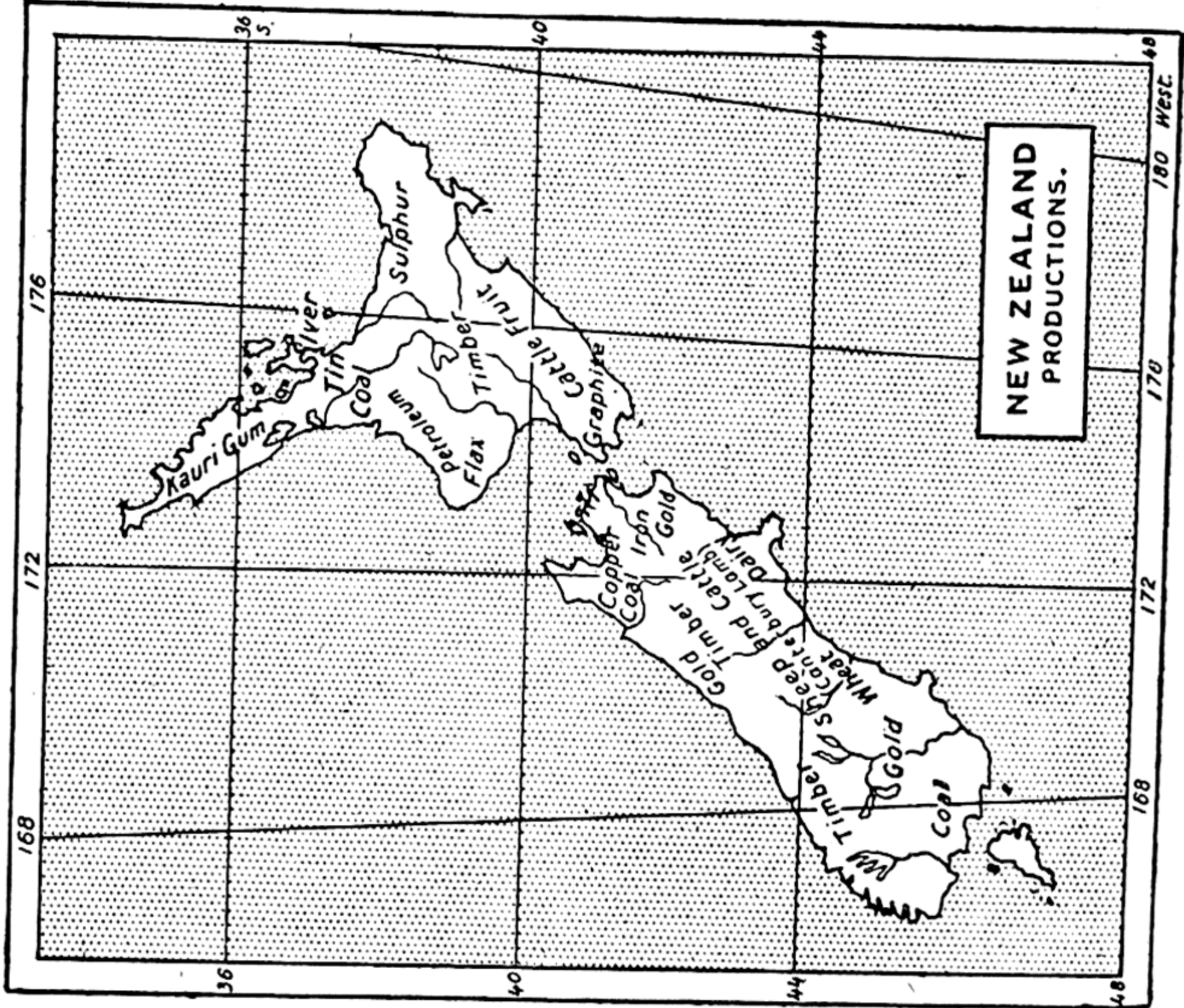
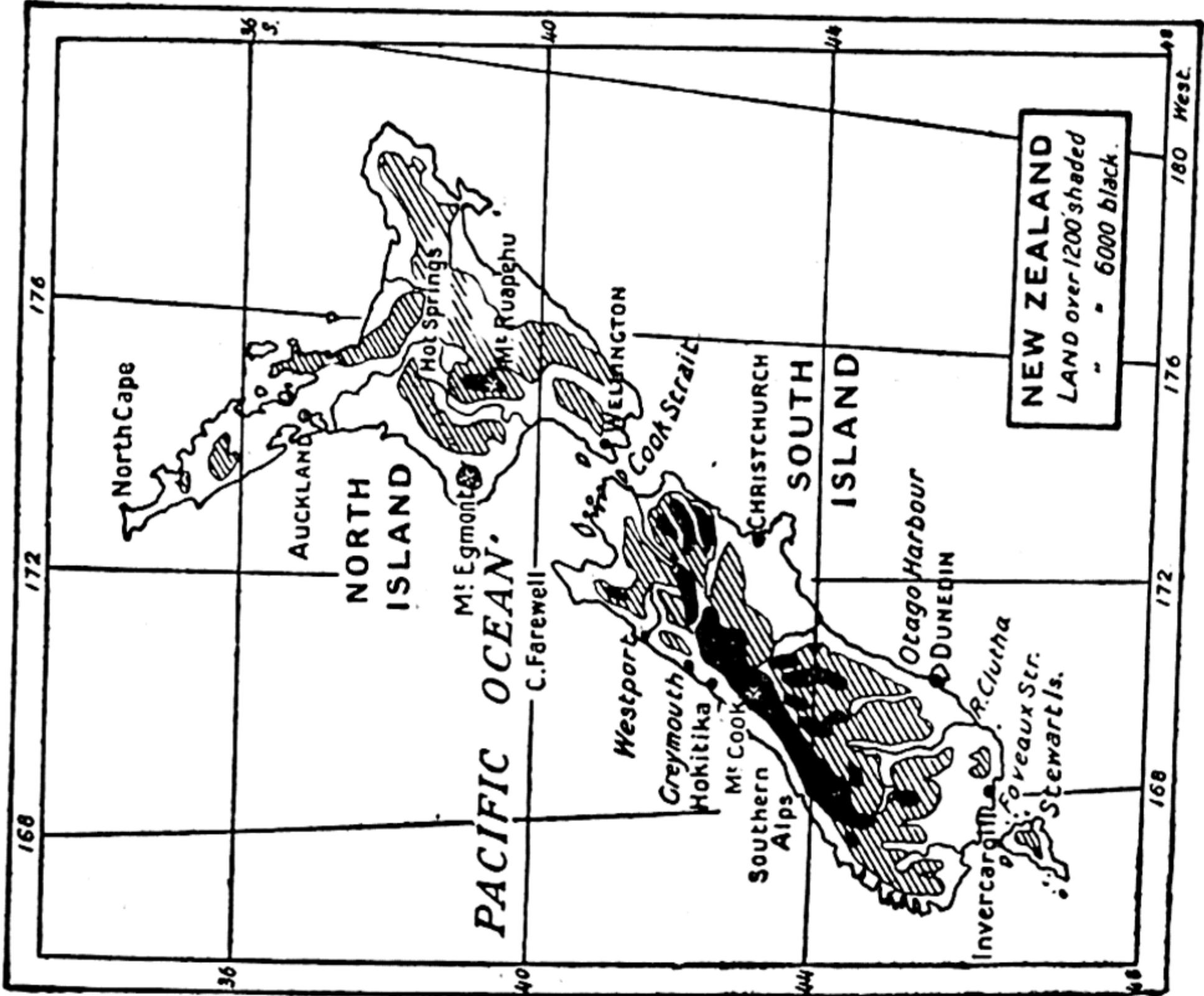
IX. NEW ZEALAND

1. Surface.

New Zealand consists of North Island, South Island, and Stewart Island. Stewart Island is small. The group lies 1200 miles to the south-east of Australia. Cook Strait separates North from South Island.

North Island is mountainous and volcanic. The extinct cone of Mount Egmont occupies the south-west promontory. Inland there are active volcanoes. In the centre of the island is a famous geyser and hot lake district.

The Southern Alps run the whole length of South Island. Mount Cook, the highest peak, is nearly 13,000 feet high. The whole range is snow-capped; great glaciers descend far down the slopes; innumerable torrents run from the melting snows down narrow rocky glens. The western slopes are forested and steep, the eastern are grassy and descend more gently to the



Canterbury Plains of the centre and the open valleys of the southern end of the island. Long narrow lakes occupy the valleys between the mountains.

2. Climate.

The climate varies from that of Malta in the north to that of Scotland in the south. The temperature in the north varies from 67° in February to 52° in July. Strong winds are frequent.

The north has winter rains like the Mediterranean. There is a copious rainfall all along the western coast, where it reaches 114 inches; on the eastern side it lessens gradually to 26 inches a year. New Zealand is sunnier, fairer, and warmer than the Mother Country. It does not suffer from droughts.

3. Productions.

Forests of *Kauri pine* cover most of the mountain slopes of North Island. *Resin* is obtained from its timber. *Kauri gum*, the relic of long-dead forests, is found under the surface. Tree ferns grow 50 feet high. The forests of the Southern Alps are temperate. Native *New Zealand flax* grows wild in many parts. Its fibres resemble hemp. In the northern Mediterranean region the *orange*, *lemon* and *vine* are grown. *Wheat* and other cereals, temperate fruits and animals thrive in New Zealand.

The grassy plains of South Island are admirable for sheep. *Wool*, *tallow*, *hides* and *frozen mutton* are exported. Christchurch on the Canterbury Plains is the great centre for this trade. Cattle are reared on the upland slopes and *dairy produce* is exported. *Wheat* and *flour* also are sent to Britain.

Gold is found in many parts. Silver, tin, iron and coal are also found.

The native animals were few. There were no marsupials nor reptiles, but only a few rats and mice. The *moa*, a bird 12 feet high, resembling the ostrich, is now extinct. The *kiwi*, a wingless bird, is still found. The *pig*, introduced by Captain Cook, runs wild in places.

4. The Maories.

The Maories, the native race of New Zealand, are very intelligent. They number about 45,000, but are decreasing. They have become Christians, and take their share in the representative government of the islands.

5. Towns, etc.

Auckland, the largest town, is on a narrow isthmus joining the long northern peninsula to North Island. It has a harbour on both sides and does great trade with Australia and the Home Country.

Wellington, the capital, stands on Cook Strait, at the southern extremity of North Island.

Christchurch and **Dunedin** are the two largest towns in South Island. Dunedin exports gold.

Certain islands in the South Pacific, among them Cook Islands, are under the government of New Zealand. Samoa in the South Seas, formerly German, is now administered by the New Zealand Government. New Zealand was sighted and named by the Dutch Tasman, but Captain Cook first explored the coast-line.

6. Read *New Zealand* (Romance of Empire), by Horsley; *New Zealand*, by Murray Moss; *Maori and Settler*, by Henty.

7. Questions and Exercises.

1. Compare the Maories with the Australian natives.
2. Why are the New Zealand exports valuable to Britain?
3. Why is New Zealand sometimes called "Another England"?
4. Would you prefer to live in New Zealand or in West Australia? Why?

5. Why should the west coast of New Zealand receive more rain than the eastern ?

6. Compare the following by squared paper diagrams: West Australia, 980,000 square miles ; Queensland, 670,000 ; New South Wales, 310,000 ; Victoria, 90,000 ; Tasmania, 20,000 ; New Zealand, 105,000 ; South Australia, 380,000.

7. Why is New Zealand not troubled by droughts like Australia ?

8. Make maps of New Zealand to show physical features, rainfall and winds.

9. Why is there less trouble in obtaining labour in New Zealand than in Queensland ?

X. THE SOUTH SEAS

1. The southern part of the Pacific Ocean contains many clusters of islands, some large, some small. The larger islands are of volcanic origin, the smaller are of coral. Round the outer edges of most are coral reefs. All the islands are tropic in climate, but the heat is tempered by the steady trade winds. The volcanic larger islands are very fertile. *Coco-nuts*, *bananas* and the *bread fruit tree* grow luxuriantly. The chief trade product is *copra* (dried coco-nut). Many of the groups are British.

2. **The Fiji Islands** are the most important British group. They are mountainous. *Tobacco*, *maize*, *sugar*, *rice*, *pine apples*, *cotton*, *coffee* and *tea* are grown. The native Fijians are an intelligent race, strong, willing, dark, and curly-haired. Once cannibals, they are now Christians. They live chiefly on *yams*. **Suva**, the capital, is a calling place on the Vancouver to Australia and New Zealand route.

3. Read *Jerry, Adventure*, by Jack London ; *Coral Island*, by Ballantyne ; *In the South Seas*, by Stevenson ; *At Home in Fiji*, by Gordon Cumming ; *Through Tropic Seas*, by Burnett.

4. Questions and Exercises.

1. Who does the manual work on a coco-nut plantation ?

2. Of what use are the Fiji Islands to Britain ?

3. Make a map of the South Pacific Ocean. Mark in the island groups, and show which are British.

PART V

LANDS IN AFRICA

XI. AFRICA (GENERAL, WINDS AND ZONES)

1. Surface.

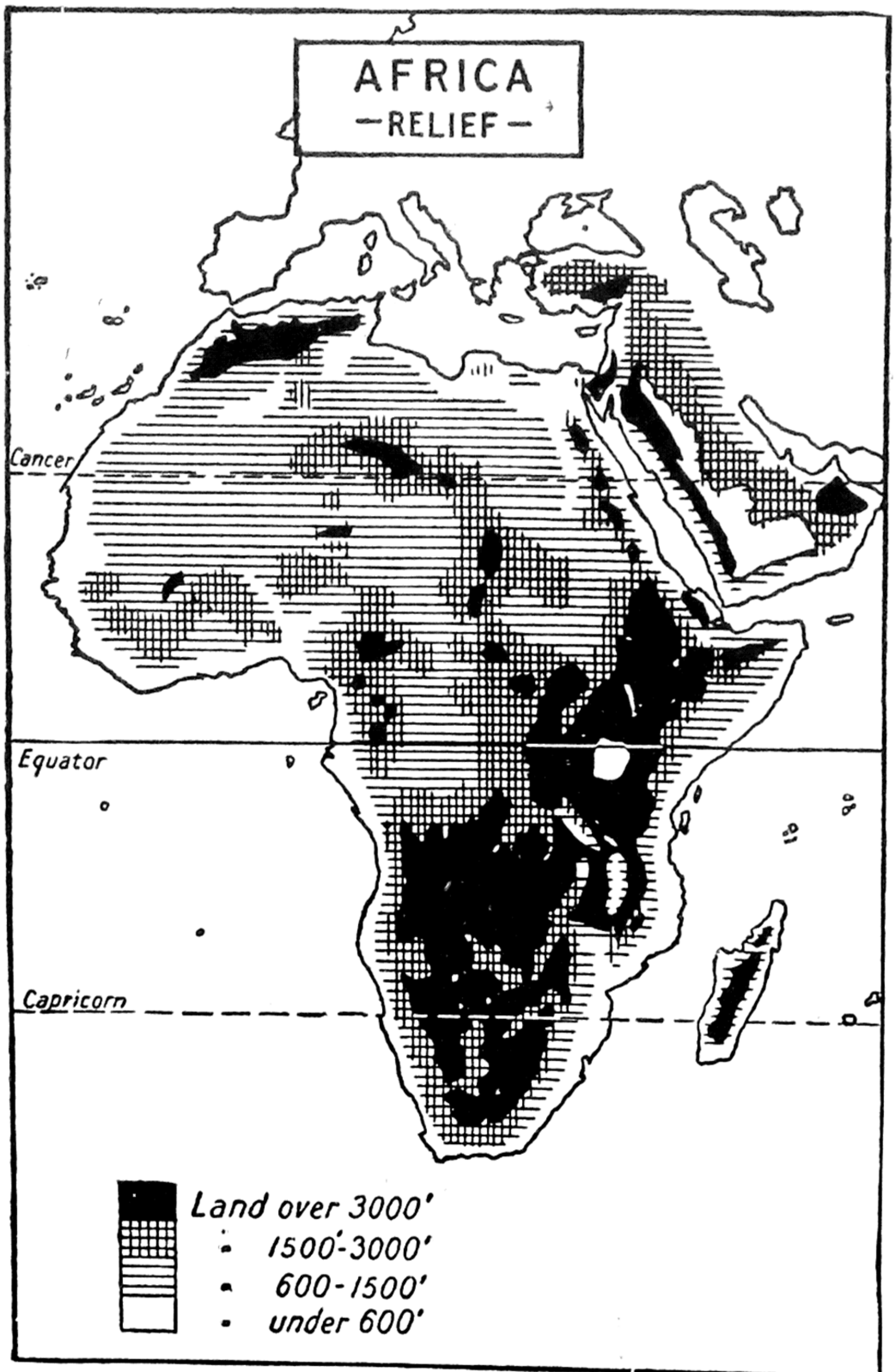
The continent of Africa is a compact land mass rising by a series of terraces from a narrow coastal plain to an immense central plateau.

The central plateau is crossed by mountain ranges ; lower lands are found along the courses of the rivers. In Central Africa are the Great Lakes of *Victoria Nyanza*, *Albert Nyanza*, *Tanganyika*, *Bangweolo* and *Nyassa*. In this central Lake region rise three out of the four great African rivers, the *Nile*, *Congo* and *Zambesi*. The fourth, the *Niger*, is in the western part of the continent.

The Equator crosses Africa almost at its centre. On each side of the Equator is found a region of hot, wet, tropic lands, covered with dense forest in the lowlands, and with park-like stretches of open forest country changing to grasslands on the plateaux. The highest peaks are snow-covered all the year round.

Beyond the forests on both sides of the Equator are grasslands, which give place to scrub and then to desert as the rainless regions are reached. Beyond the deserts are warm temperate lands.

The low lands of the west coast around the Gulf of Guinea, the low lands near the rivers, and the coast plain within the tropics, are unhealthy for Europeans. The south is suitable for white men.



2. British Lands in Africa.

A very large part of the land in Africa suitable for white colonists is under British rule. The whole of the south of the continent, the raised plateau lands of the eastern central region, most of the Nile basin, and the East African Protectorate are British. Great areas of the wet malarial lands of the west and the lower Niger basin are also British. A few islands, *St. Helena* and *Ascension* in the Atlantic, *Mauritius*, the *Seychelles*, the *Amirantes* and *Socotra*, in the Indian Ocean, are occupied by Britain.

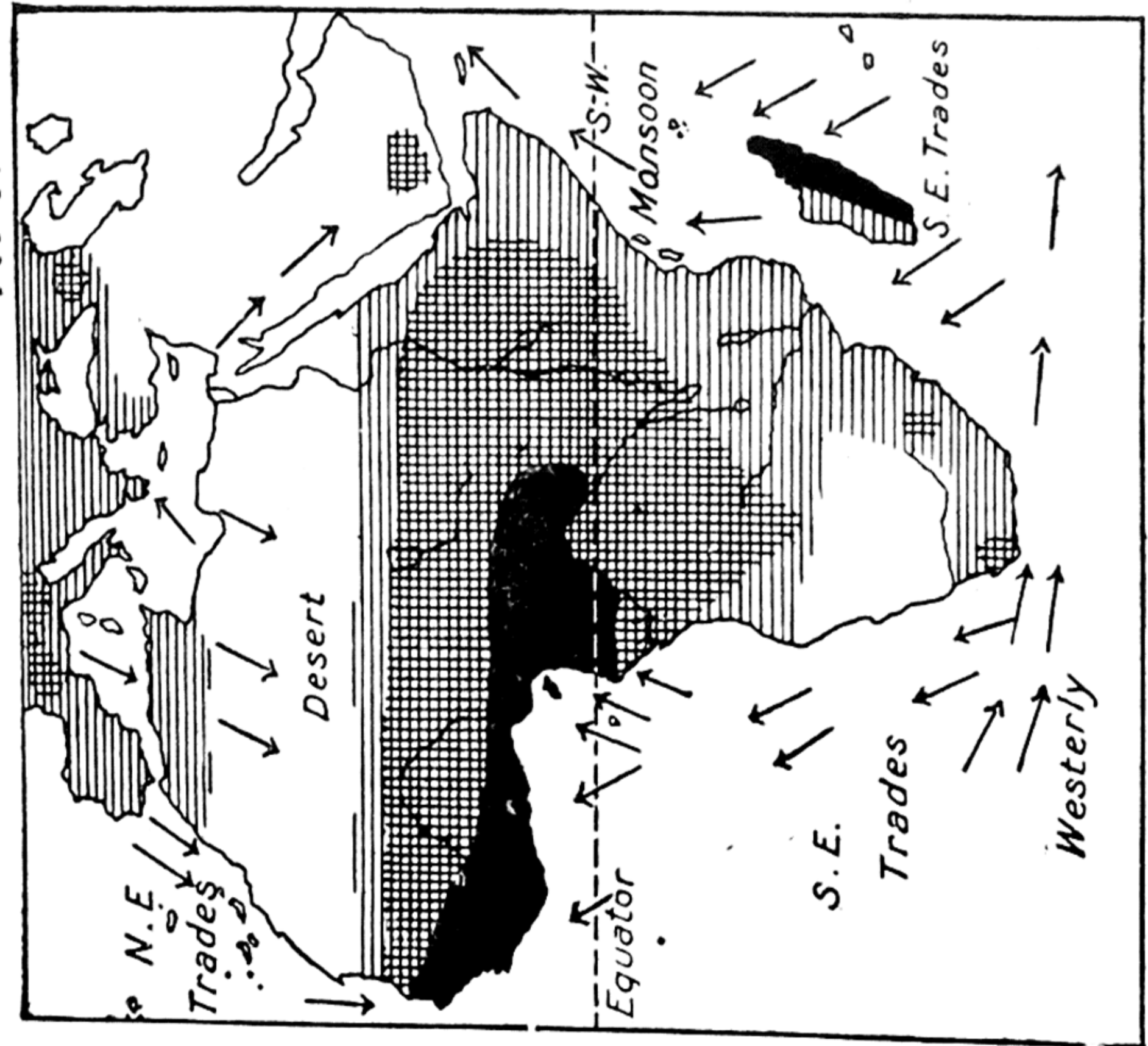
3. Winds and Zones.

Northern Africa is in the region of the north-east Trades. Before reaching Africa the north-east Trades have crossed great land areas and are consequently dry winds, and the *Sahara Desert* is the result. South of the Equator the south-east Trade Winds from the Indian Ocean bring about 30 inches of rain annually to the eastern side. After crossing the highlands they are drier winds, and as a consequence the *Kalahari Desert* is found on the western side.

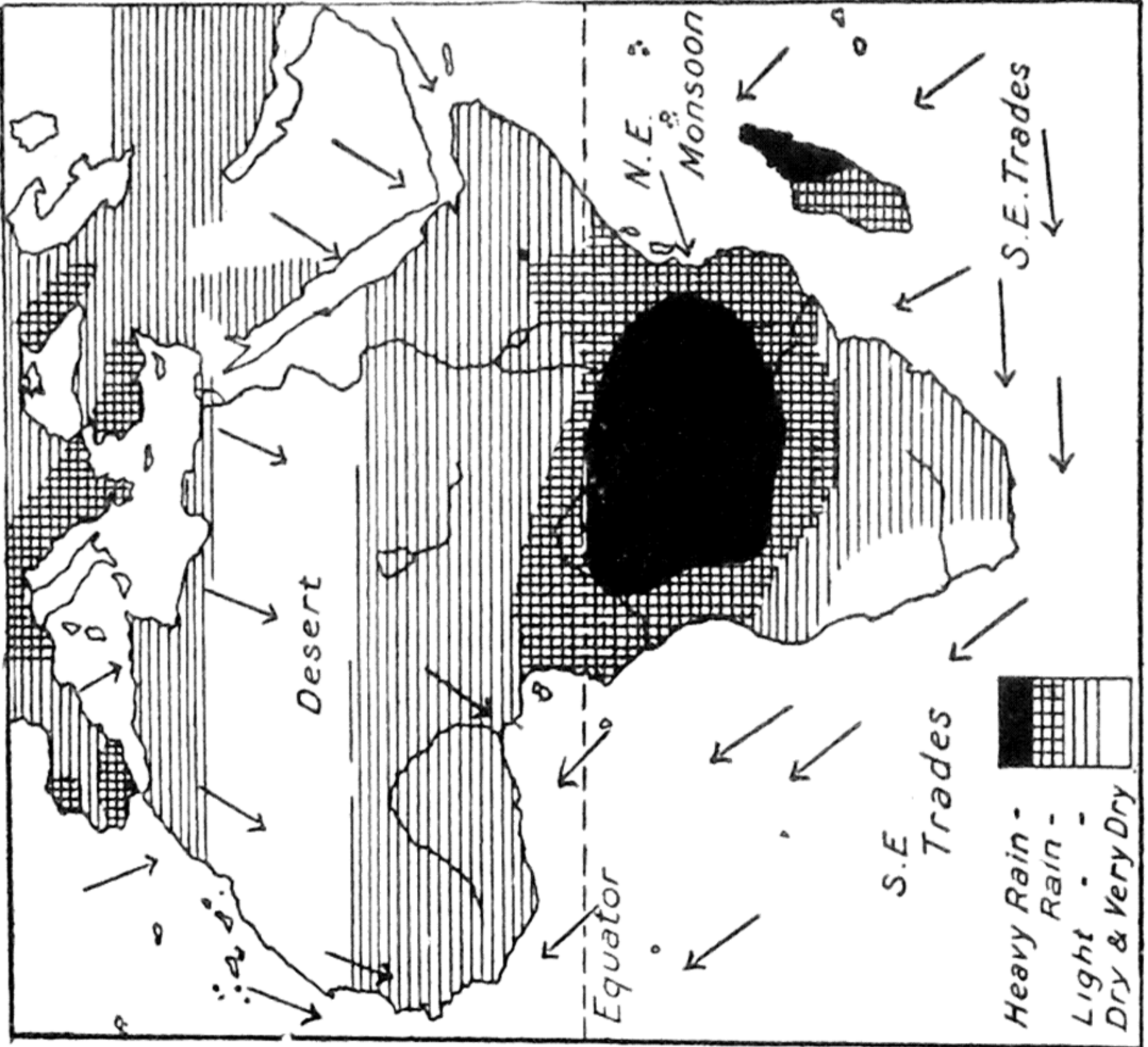
In *Abyssinia* and the plateau near the Great Lakes the great heat gives a monsoonal tendency to the north-east Trades during the southern summer, and eastern Central Africa has heavy rain in that season. The conditions necessary for a monsoon are also found in West Africa around the Gulf of Guinea, where the South-East Monsoon turns in towards the land and drenching rains result.

In the extreme south the westerly winds blow from the Atlantic to the Cape, and about 20 inches of rain falls annually in the winter.

AFRICA - WINDS AND RAIN.



MAY TO OCTOBER



NOVEMBER TO APRIL

4. Temperature.

In the Northern Summer the isotherms show an average varying from 60° at the Cape to 70° at Capricorn, then 80° from the Equator to the Mediterranean coast plain, with a hot region of 90° in the centre.

In the Southern Summer the conditions are reversed. The temperature is above 80° for nearly all Africa from a few degrees north of the Equator to the southern coast plain, with a hot belt of 90° in the centre. From the tropic of Cancer northwards the average is about 70° .

5. Read The lives and travels of Stanley, Livingstone, Speke, Baker, Bruce, Thomson, Mungo Park; *Great African Explorers*, by Kingston and Low; *Cape Colony to Cairo*, by Grogan and Sharp; *A Hunter's Wanderings in Africa*, by Selous; Novels by Rider Haggard; *Hunting the Lions*, by Ballantyne (Nisbet).

XII. THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

1. History.

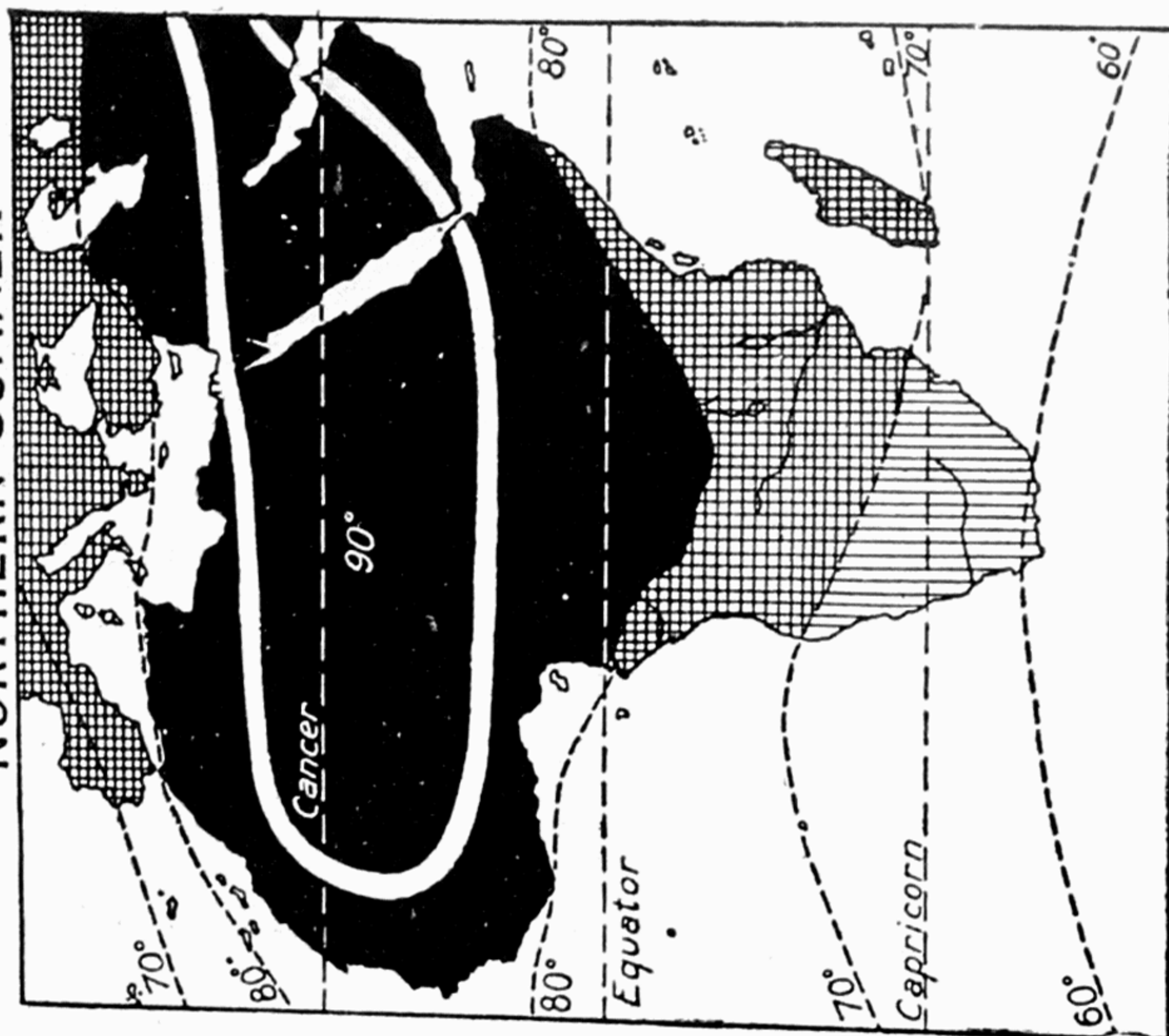
The Union of South Africa consists of the provinces of *Cape Colony*, *Natal*, *Orange Free State* and the *Transvaal*. The Dutch first realised the importance of the position at the Cape and made it their halfway house of call on the long sea route to India and the East. The Dutch settlements did not spread far into the interior. The British took the settlement during the Napoleonic Wars of the early nineteenth century, afterwards paying the Dutch a large sum as purchase money.

Many of the Dutch farmer-settlers, or *Boers*, did not like the English rule, and trekked farther inland as the English power advanced. They founded the *Transvaal* and the *Orange Free State*. *Natal* was settled by British colonists.

The discovery of gold in the *Transvaal* drew many British into that country, and at last the Boers were

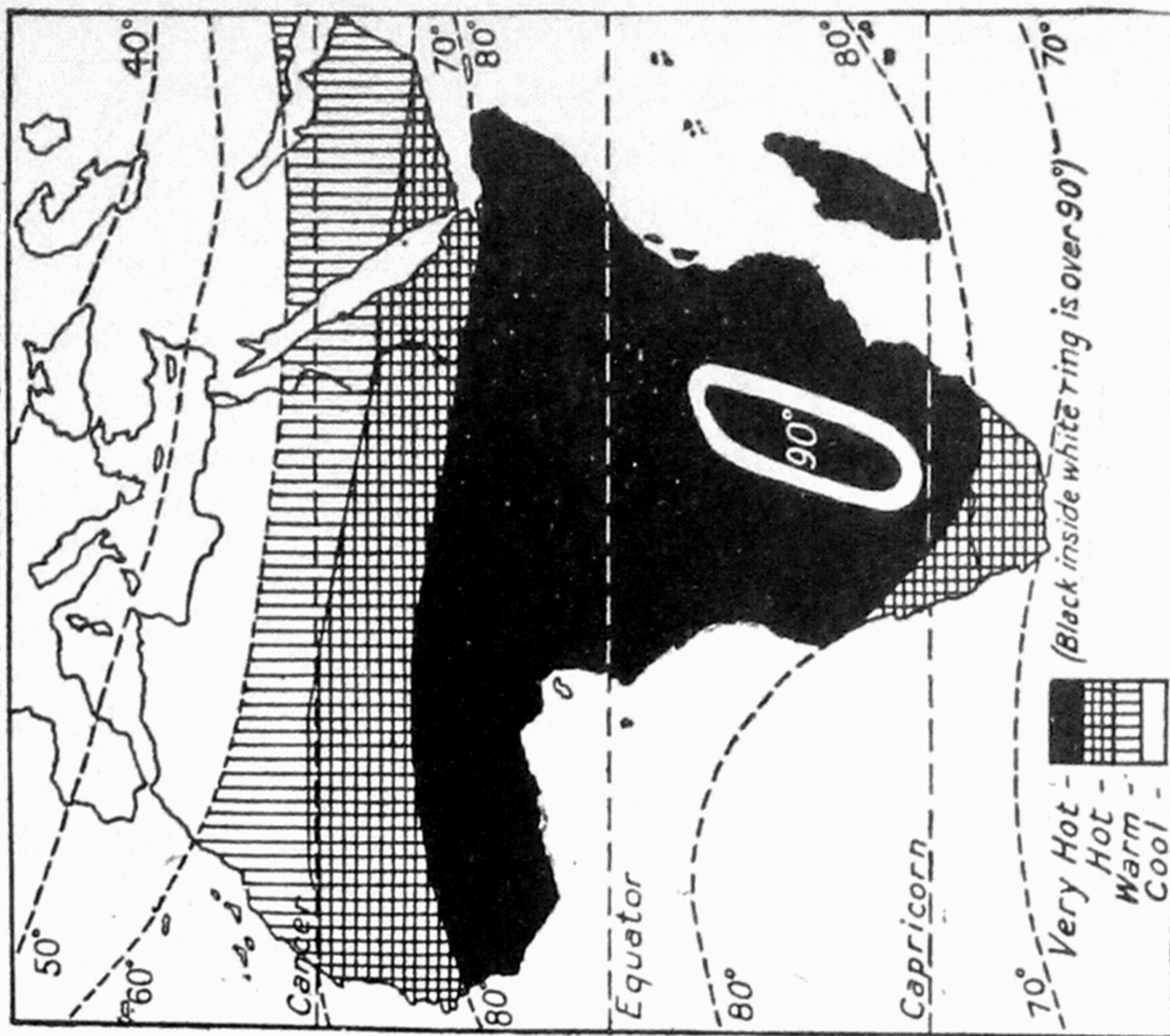
AFRICA

NORTHERN SUMMER



JULY TEMPERATURES.

SOUTHERN SUMMER



JANUARY TEMPERATURES.

outnumbered there, though not in Cape Colony. The struggle for supremacy between the two races was fought out in the South African War, which ended in 1902, when the Transvaal and the Orange Free State were annexed to the Empire. A few years later the several states were federated.

2. Native Races.

The whites are greatly outnumbered by the native population of South Africa. In the west the chief race is the *Hottentot*. The *Hottentots* are little, lazy and unwarlike.

The *Kaffir* race is the more numerous in the east. The *Kaffirs* are well built, strong and warlike. They are good cattlemen. There are many different tribes, *Zulus*, *Basutos*, *Mashonas* and *Matabele*. Most of the work in South Africa is done by native "boys," as the *Kaffir* workmen are called.

3. Native Animals.

In early days South Africa was the home of many varieties of the larger wild animals. *Lions*, *leopards*, *elephants*, *zebras*, *jackals* and herds of *antelopes* roamed over its wide stretches of plain and grassy uplands. The *giraffe* was found in the more northerly parts.

Antelopes are still fairly numerous, but the others have been killed off or have migrated northwards.

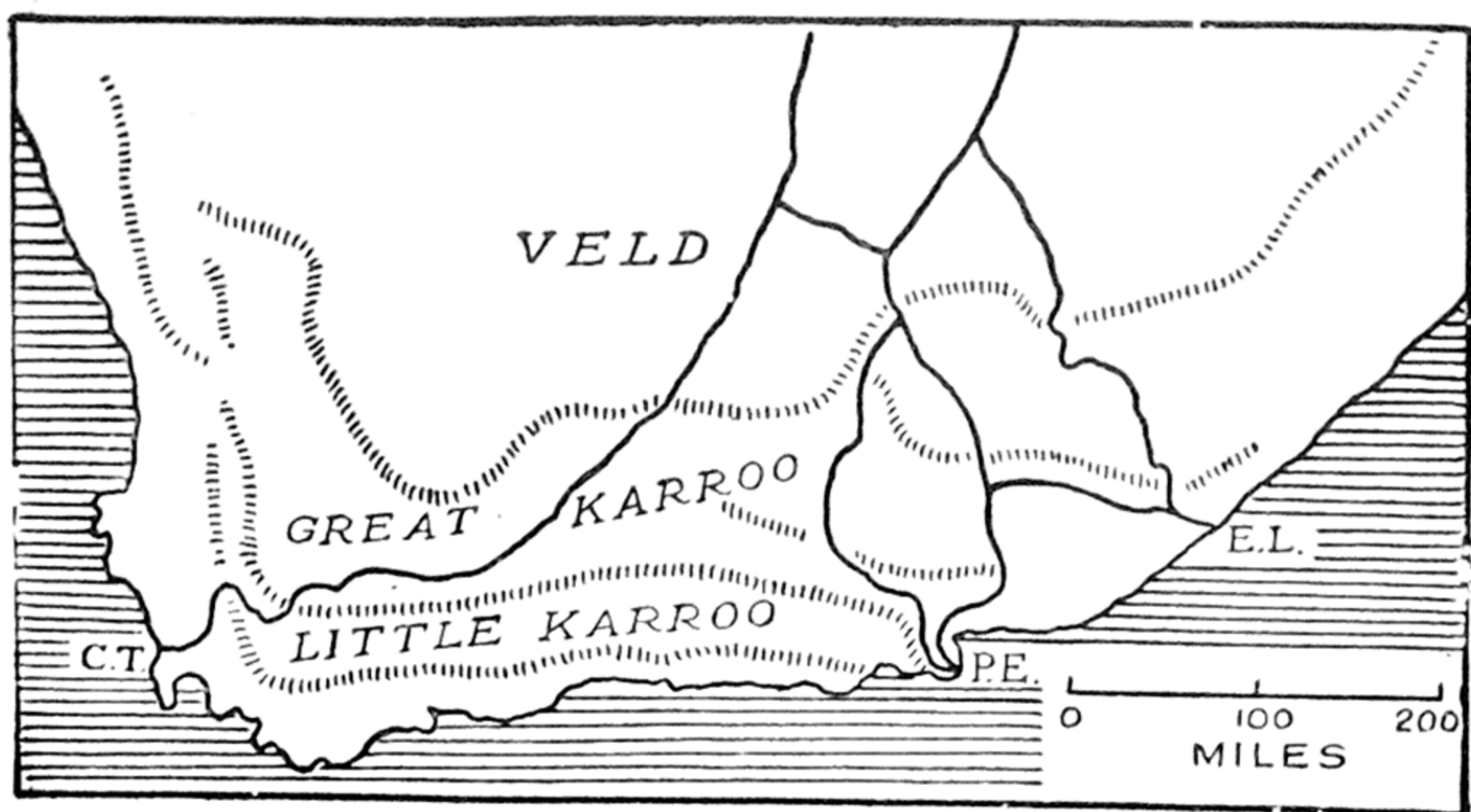
4. Cape Colony.

(a) **Surface.**—Cape Colony takes its name from the Cape of Good Hope. It occupies the southern part of Africa, south of the Orange River.

The land rises in terraces from the sea. Round, or flat-topped lines of heights, running roughly parallel to the coast-line, separate the terraces. The first terrace

is the coast plain ; the next is the *Little Karroo*. The third terrace is the *Great Karroo*. The *Nieuwveld Mountains* and the *Sneeuwbergen* (Snow Mountains) form its northern edge. Beyond the *Nieuwveld Mountains* the land slopes gently down to the Orange River and the Kalahari Desert.

The Snow Mountains turn northwards at their eastern end towards the *Drakenberg Mountains*, the highest range in South Africa.



EDGES OF TERRACES IN SOUTH AFRICA, AND THE RAILWAYS TO THE VELD.

(b) **Climate.**—The climate of Cape Colony is warmer than England, resembling that of Southern Europe. The average temperature varies from 60° in the winter to 80° in the summer. The rainfall on the coast plain is from 30 to 40 inches annually. It occurs at opposite seasons in the east and west. It lessens from the south-east to the north-west, being almost nil at the Orange River. Violent thunderstorms, with short but heavy downpours, are frequent in the interior.

(c) **Rivers.**—The rivers are uncertain and of little use for navigation. Those of the interior vary from

torrential floods, 30 or 40 feet deep after the rains, to dried-up watercourses in the dry season. They cross the hill barriers from the Karroos to the sea by deep, rocky, water-worn defiles, called *Kloofs*. For many years these kloofs provided the only routes into the interior, ox waggon using the river beds as roads. The coastal rivers are more regular, with a constant flow of water.

The *Orange* is the only long river. It has two main sources, the *Vaal*, rising in the northern part of the Drakenbergs, and the *Orange* farther south. Its mouth is impeded by sandbanks.

(d) **The Karroos and Agriculture.**—The Karroos are clay plains with raised parts called *Kopjes*. In summer the soil is parched. Stunted trees grow on the river banks, but on the plains themselves only a few grey-green bushes and *cactus* plants show above the dry, brown, dusty, hard-baked soil.

After the rains grass grows and flowers spring up.

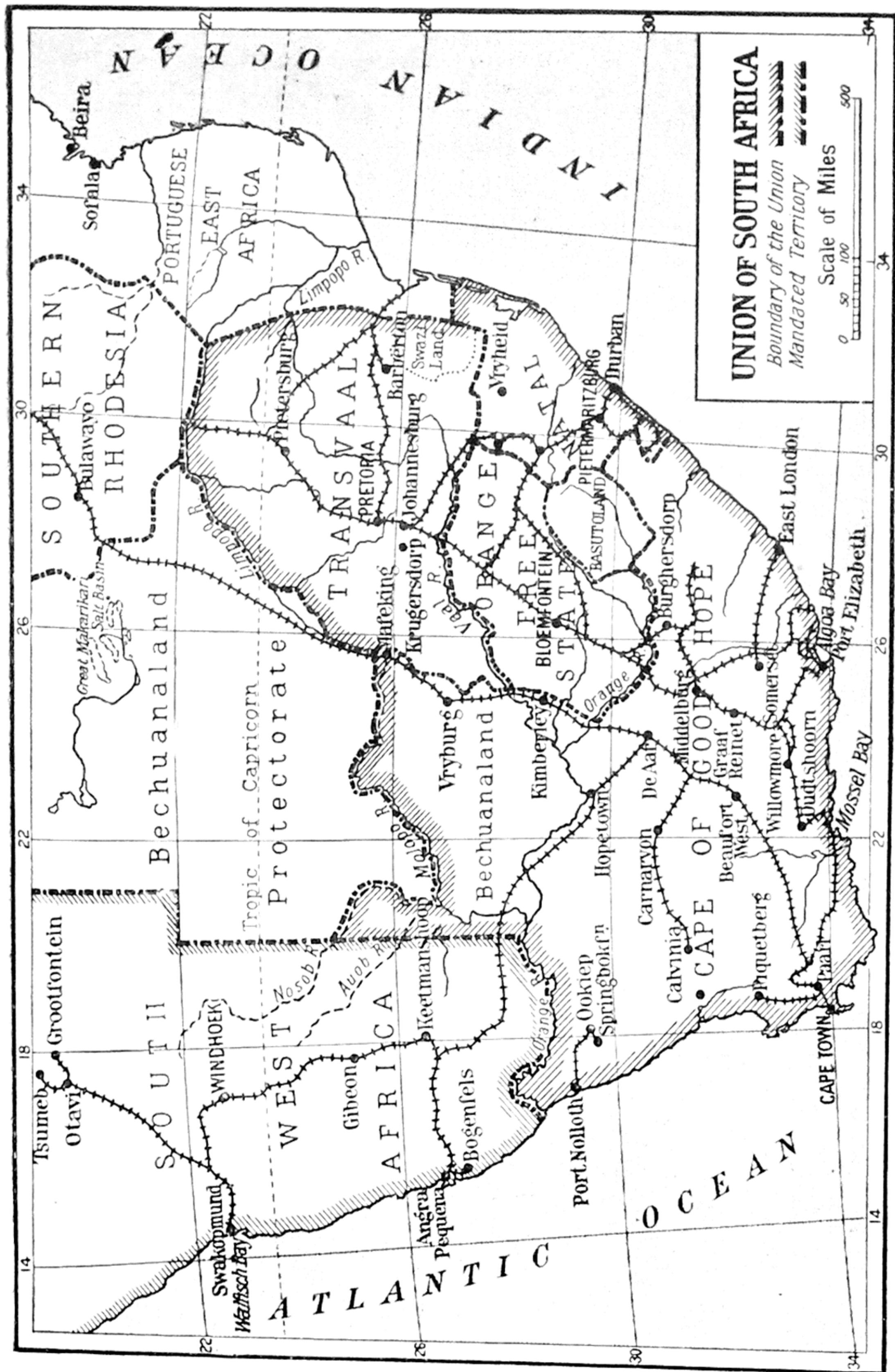
Sheep and cattle are kept; ostrich farms are increasing in number; the Angora goat does well. *Wool, hides, mohair and ostrich feathers* are exported.

Only water is needed to transform the dusty, arid karroo into a fertile, busy homeland. As in Australia, artesian wells are being dug. Wheat, maize or mealie patches are cultivated round the farmhouses.

In the fertile province of Constantia, near the Cape, the *grape* and other Mediterranean fruits flourish. *Wine* is exported.

(e) **Minerals.**—Cape Colony is not rich in minerals. *Copper* is mined in the north-west, a few miles south of the Orange River. The ore is sent by rail to *Port Nolloth*, and shipped from there.

The *diamond* mines at Kimberley, a town to the north of the Orange River, are the richest known.



(f) **Towns.**—**Cape Town**, on Table Bay, has grown up on the site of the first Dutch settlement. It has a great oversea trade. The population includes English, Dutch, Chinese, Negroes and Malays. Behind the town is the famous Table Mountain, with its flat top and wooded sides. The Union Parliament meets at Cape Town. **Simon's Town**, across the bay, is a naval station. In the east are **Port Elizabeth**, on Algoa Bay, and **East London**, two fairly busy seaports and railway termini. They are the outlets of the fertile lands in the east.

(g) Read *South Africa of To-day*, by Fyfe; *Everyday Life in Cape Colony*, *Farm in the Karroo*, by Hobson; *On Veldt and Farm*, by Machab; *Home Life on an Ostrich Farm*, by Martin; *Masterman Ready*, by Marryat; *Six Months at the Cape*, by Ballantyne (Nisbet).

5. Natal.

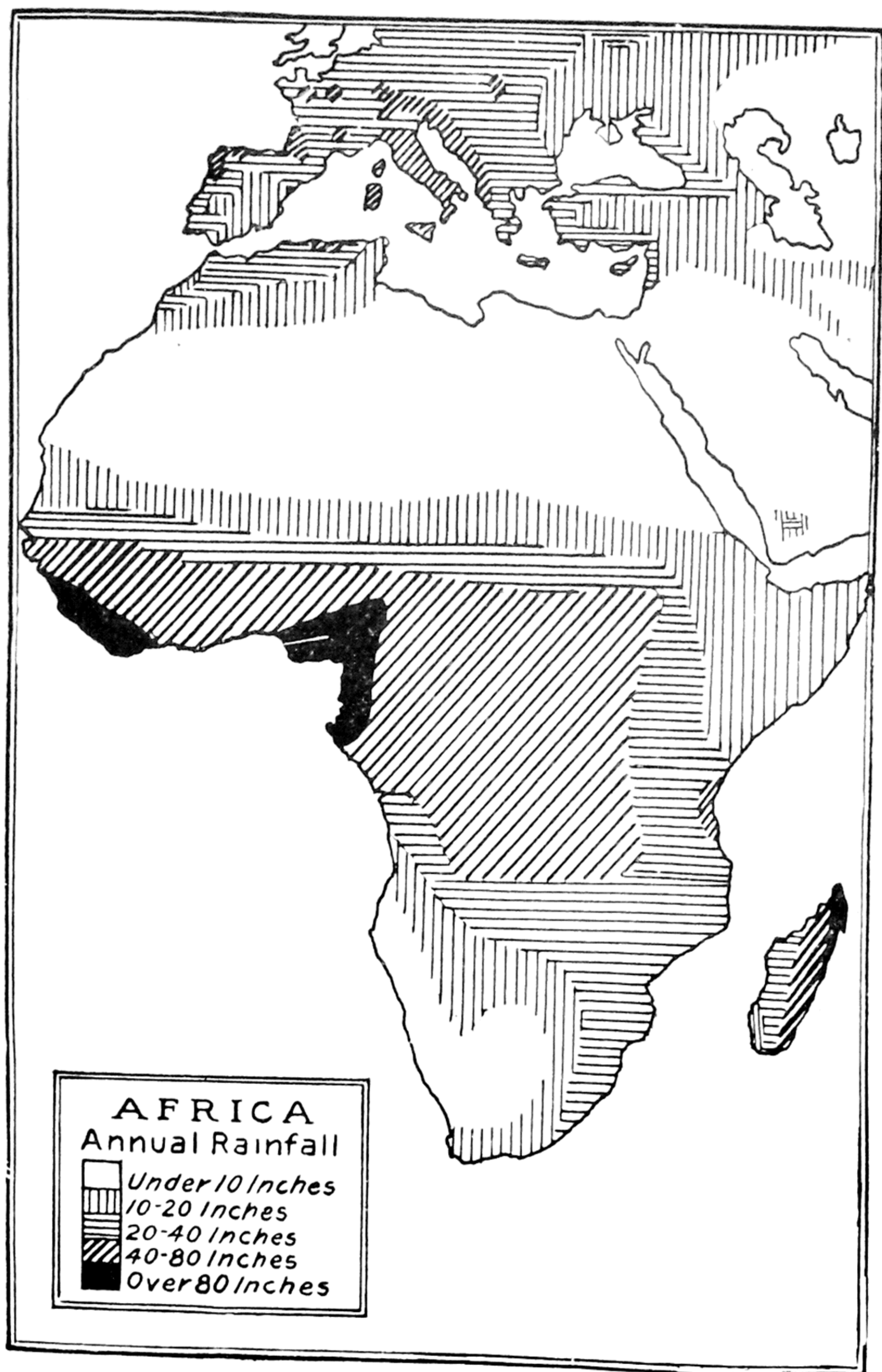
Natal lies on the eastern side of the southern part of Africa. It was discovered by Vasco da Gama.

The climate is warmer than around Cape Town. The rainfall is plentiful. Natal is in the region of the South-East Trades. The country is fertile. It shows a similar terrace formation to Cape Colony, but the terraces are narrower.

On the coast plain, *rice*, *sugar* and *fruits* are grown, with *tea*, *coffee* and *tobacco* on the slopes of the first hills, bounding the plain. On the second terrace, *maize*, *wheat*, *apples* and other temperate fruits grow well. The third terrace is good grazing land. Behind it the grim Drakenberg Mountains shut off Natal from the interior. The range is crossed by difficult passes.

Durban is the chief port. The capital is **Pietermaritzburg**, some distance inland. **Newcastle** has coal mines.

The white people are mainly English. Coolies from



India were introduced to work on the rice and sugar plantations.

Zululand, across the Tugela River to the north, is now included in Natal.

Read *Natal*, by Russell.

6. The Transvaal.

The Transvaal is an inland country lying "across" the Vaal and extending northwards to the *Limpopo River*.

The south-eastern part is mountainous, being broken up by spurs from the Drakenberg Range. The centre is mainly level tableland, crossed by a few low ranges of hills. This is fairly good grassland.

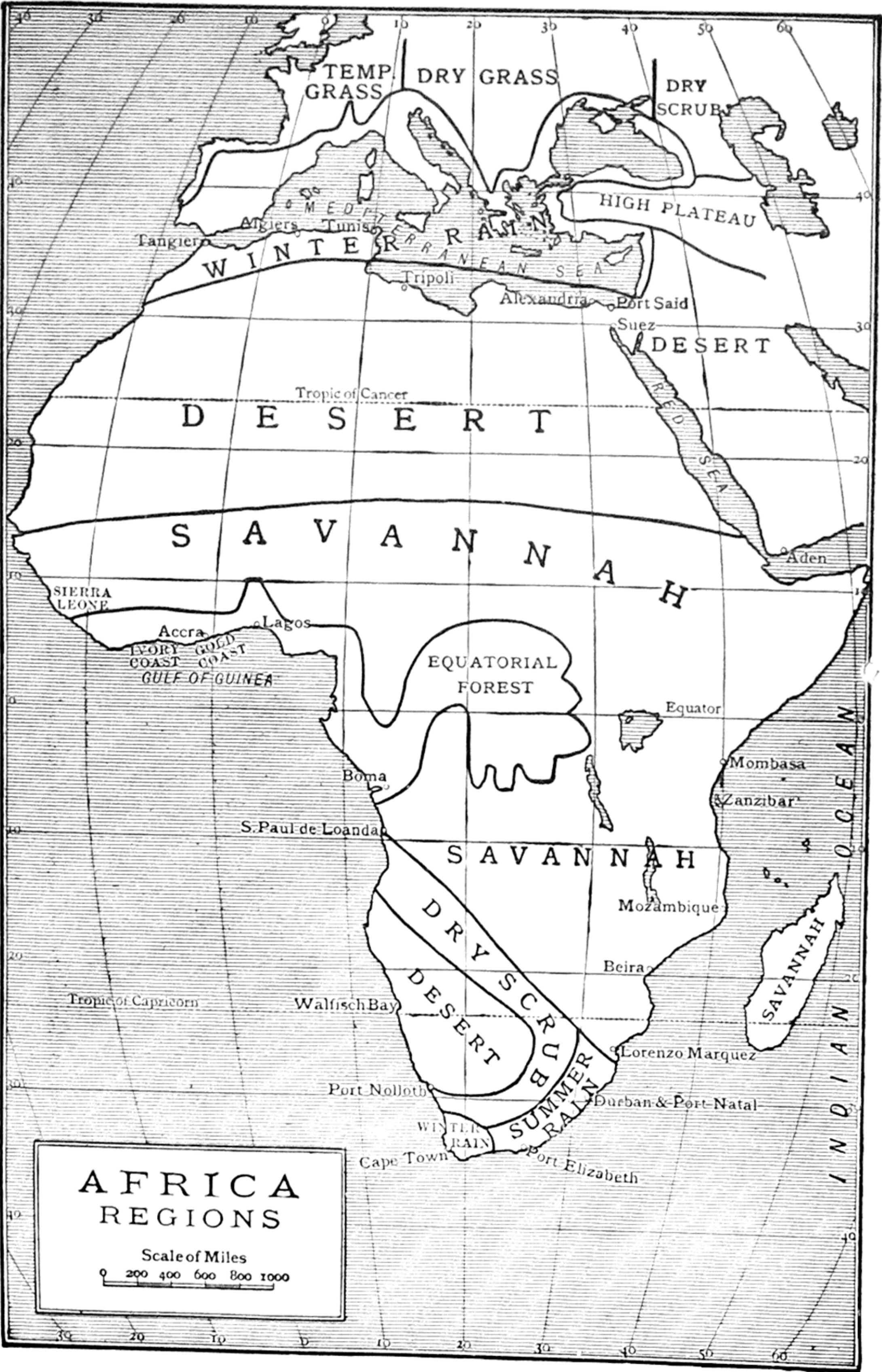
The northern part falls from the plateau to the Limpopo lowlands. The treeless plains gradually change to a more wooded country, until on the river banks real woodlands are reached. The northern lowland is malarial. It is infested by the tse-tse fly.

Pretoria, the administrative capital of the Union, is a small town in the centre of the country. To the south of Pretoria is **Johannesburg**, the great *gold-mining* centre of South Africa. The mines are worked by native labour. *Gold, wool and hides* are exported. The gold is sent by rail to Durban, or to Delagoa Bay, a Portuguese possession, and the best harbour on the south-eastern coast of Africa.

7. The Orange Free State.

The Orange Free State is an inland country lying between the two branches of the Orange River. The surface is mainly fairly level plateau. The inhabitants are chiefly Boer cattle and sheep farmers.

Government irrigation works and special "dry" farming methods have proved that much of the land is



suitable for growing cereals and temperate fruits. The capital is **Bloemfontein**.

8. **Basutoland** is a kind of native reservation within the Union boundaries, but not under the Union Parliament. It is governed by native chiefs under the supervision of the Home Government. It lies around the sources of the Orange River.

The country is hilly, with much good grazing land suitable for horses and cattle.

9. **South-West Africa**, from the Orange mouth northwards to the boundary of Portuguese West Africa, was occupied by Germany, with the exception of the British port of Walfisch (whale-fish) Bay.

It extends inland to the western borders of the British Bechuanaland Protectorate. Much of it is almost desert; the rest is dry country, affording pasturage to the scanty herds of sheep and cattle belonging to a few tribes of Hereros. Diamonds are found. South-West Africa is now governed by the Union.

10. The **Bechuanaland Protectorate** lies north of the Orange River and west of the Transvaal and Orange Free State. It is mainly dry grassland and scrub. The capital is *Mafeking*.

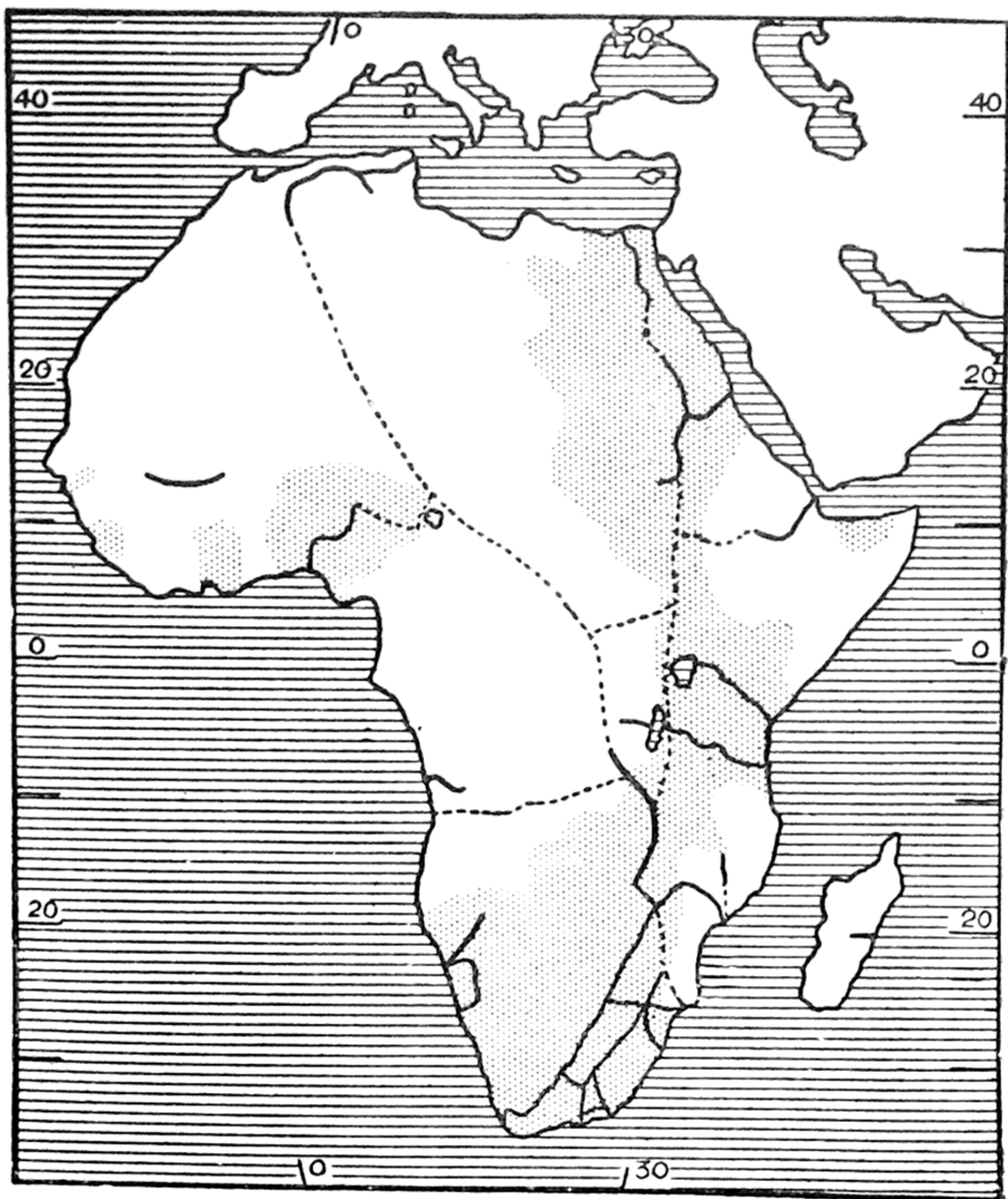
11. Railways of British Africa.

The capitals of the Union provinces are linked with each other and with the gold and diamond mines by railway. Lines also run from the mines to the nearest ports.

A great trans-continental railway is being steadily pushed forward to join the Cape to the Mediterranean. It will link the railways of South Africa with those of Egypt, and will also connect the inland termini of the various African railways.

The general line of this **Cape to Cairo Railway** is

from Cape Town through *De Aar*, *Kimberley*, *Mafeking*, *Bulawayo*, over the Zambesi at the Victoria Falls, through Rhodesia to Broken Hill near Lake Tanganyika, from



RAILWAYS OF AFRICA.

(The proposed Railways are dotted.)

whence it is to be carried northwards to a junction with the line from the north near the northern end of Victoria Nyanza.

The northern line runs from Alexandria through *Cairo, Assouan, Berber, Khartoum* and *Fashoda* to the Albert Nyanza, and then on to Victoria Nyanza.

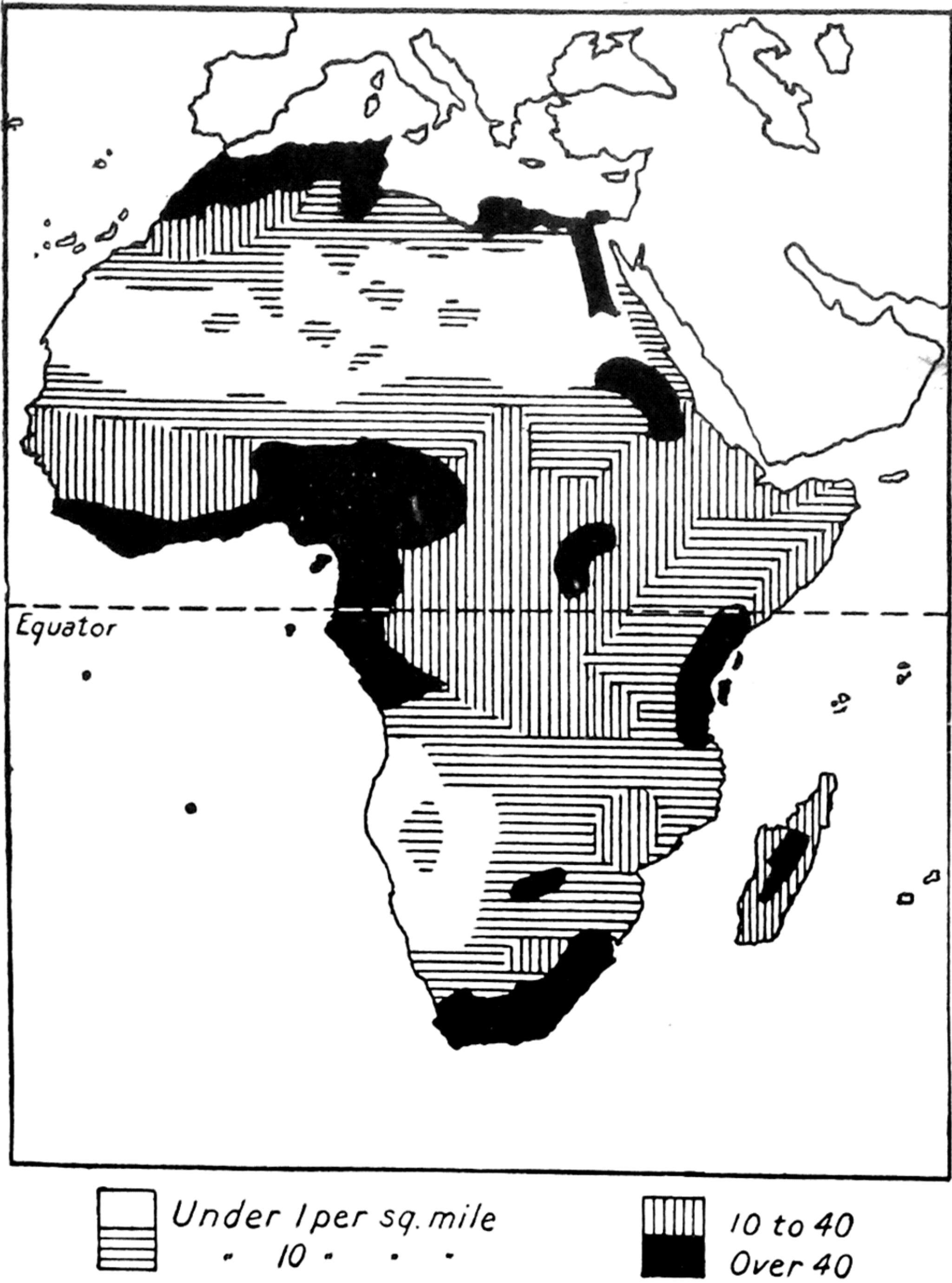
What may in the future be described as "branch" lines run from :—

- (i) *Port Florence* on Victoria Nyanza to *Mombasa*, a port in British East Africa ;
- (ii) *Bulawayo* to *Salisbury* in Rhodesia, and then on to *Beira*, a seaport in Portuguese East Africa ;
- (iii) *Kimberley* to *Johannesburg, Pretoria*, and *Delagoa Bay* ;
- (iv) *Johannesburg* to *Durban*, the port of Natal ;
- (v) *Kimberley* to *Bloemfontein*, and then to *Port Elizabeth* and *East London* ;
- (vi) *Broken Hill* to *Kambove* and on to *Stanley Falls* in the Congo Free State, where it will join a branch line from the northern section.

12. Questions and Exercises.

1. Make a sketch map of Africa, showing the British Possessions.
2. Model in clay or cardboard the African Continent.
3. Make sketch maps to show the rainfall, winds and natural products of Africa.
4. Why are the deserts in the south less arid and of less extent than the Sahara ?
5. In what ways is South Africa like Australia ?
6. Compare the Union of South Africa with the Dominion of Canada.
7. Compare graphically the following areas : Cape Colony, 277,000 square miles ; Natal, 35,000 ; Transvaal, 119,000 ; Orange Free State, 48,000 ; South West Africa, 322,000 ; British Isles, 121,000 (one square = 100,000).
8. What important ports in South Africa are not in British hands ? What are their exports ?
9. From a Whitaker's Almanac obtain the values of the exports from Canada, Australia and South Africa of wool, wheat, wine and gold. Represent the values graphically.
10. What is meant by the "labour problem" of South Africa ?
11. Why is Cape Town of importance to the British Empire ?
12. Why is the rainfall of Natal more plentiful than that of Cape Colony ?

AFRICA POPULATION



XIII. RHODESIA

Rhodesia is the name given to a vast stretch of the interior of South Africa, extending from the Limpopo River almost to the region of the Great Lakes. Much of it lies in the upper basin of the Zambesi River. The land is well-watered and fertile. Its elevation on the central plateau lessens the tropical heat, and much of it is suitable for European settlement.

The country was occupied through the action of Mr. *Cecil Rhodes*, after whom the land is named. He is buried on the Matoppo Hills to the south of the country.

In the Zambesi River course are the *Victoria Falls*. They are higher than Niagara.

The white population is small, but increasing. Farming is the principal occupation. *Wheat, maize* and other cereals are grown; fruit farms are being started; sheep and cattle are increasing in numbers. Gold-mining is growing in importance. The chief towns are **Bulawayo** and **Salisbury**.

Read *Rhodesia*, by Du Toit; *Rhodesia of To-day*, by Knight; *Sunshine and Storm in Rhodesia*, by Selous.

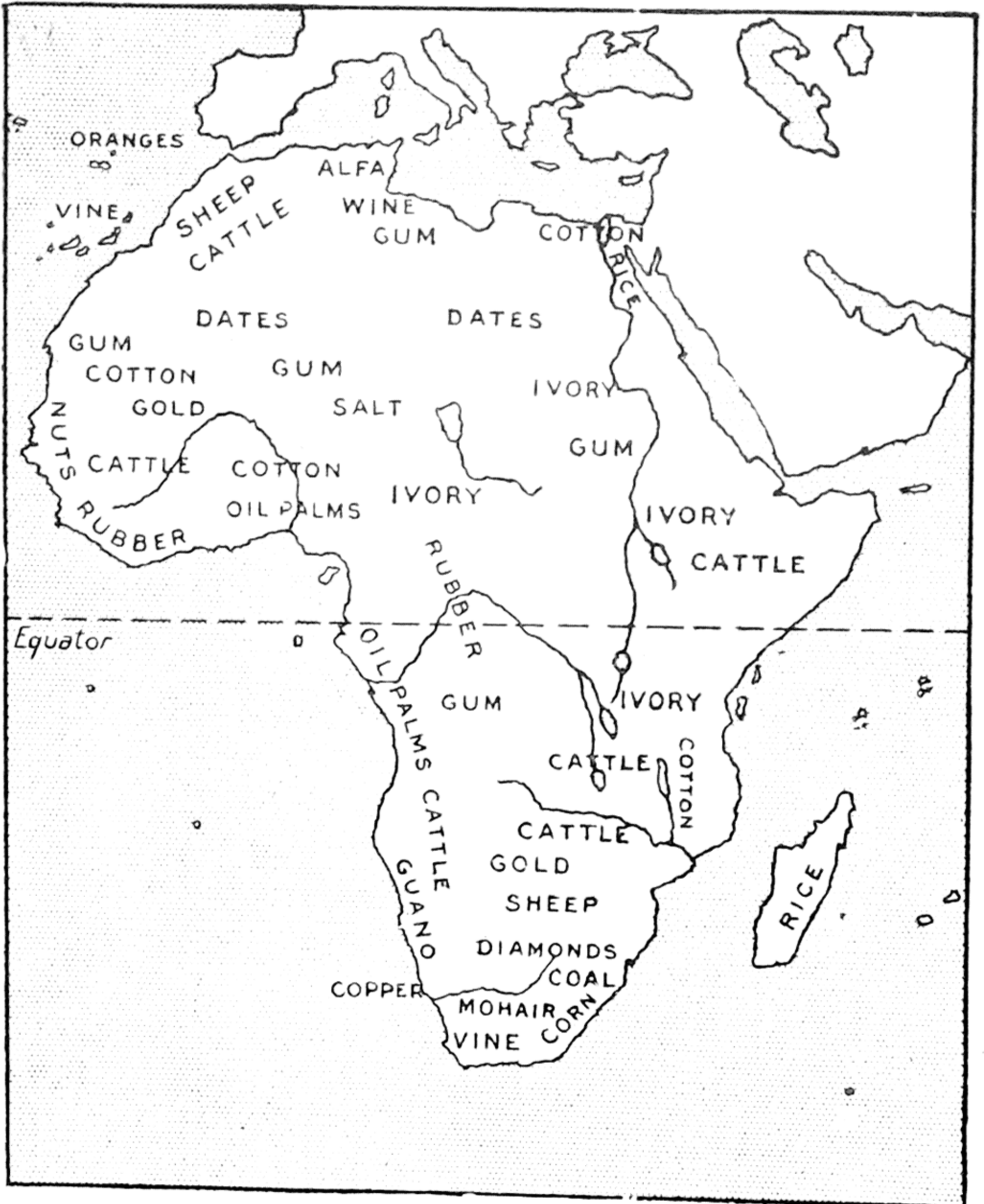
XIV. BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA

British Central Africa consists of the highlands around Lake Nyassa. The Shiré River, draining Lake Nyassa through Portuguese East Africa, provides a natural outlet to the Zambesi mouth. Tea, coffee and some cotton are grown. Blantyre is the chief town.

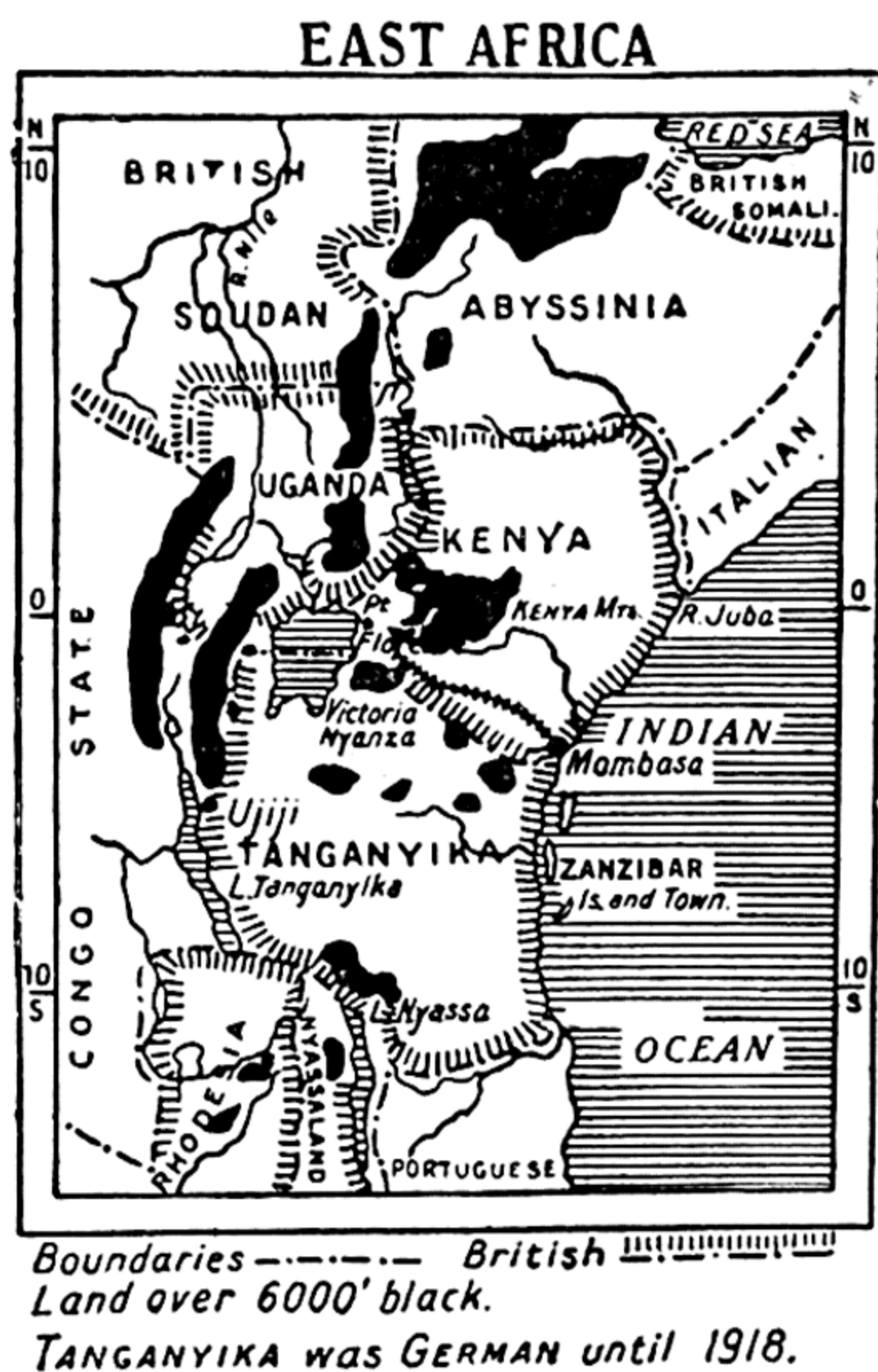
XV. BRITISH EAST AFRICA

British East Africa, a part of which is now called Kenya Colony, extends inland from the Indian Ocean to

AFRICA PRODUCTIONS



the Great Lakes. It lies on both sides of the Equator. It comprises a tropical coast plain, a wide expanse of elevated grassland, a sweltering rift valley, and, farthest inland, the rolling uplands of Uganda. Mighty mountains rise above the general level. *Mount Kenya* is over 18 000 feet high, *Kilimanjaro*, to the south, is nearly 20,000 feet in height.



Lakes *Victoria Nyanza*, *Albert Nyanza* and *Rudolf* lie almost entirely within its borders. Victoria is nearly as large as Ireland.

Zanzibar Island is the natural trading outlet for East Africa. Its town of Zanzibar has a good harbour. The island grows tropical fruits, rice, sugar and maize.

Mombasa is the chief town on the mainland. The grassy plateau of the interior swarms with animal life.

Lions, elephants, leopards, antelopes and quaggas are found. Cattle rearing is the chief occupation of the natives.

German East Africa, now called Tanganyika, extended south of British East Africa as far as the *River Rovuma* and the southern end of Lake Tanganyika. It resembles British East Africa, and is now held by Britain. A part of it has been ceded to Portugal.

Read *Man-eaters of Tsavo*, by Patterson; *Our East African Empire*, by Lugard; *Travels in British Central Africa*, by Johnston.

XVI. EGYPT AND THE SOUDAN.

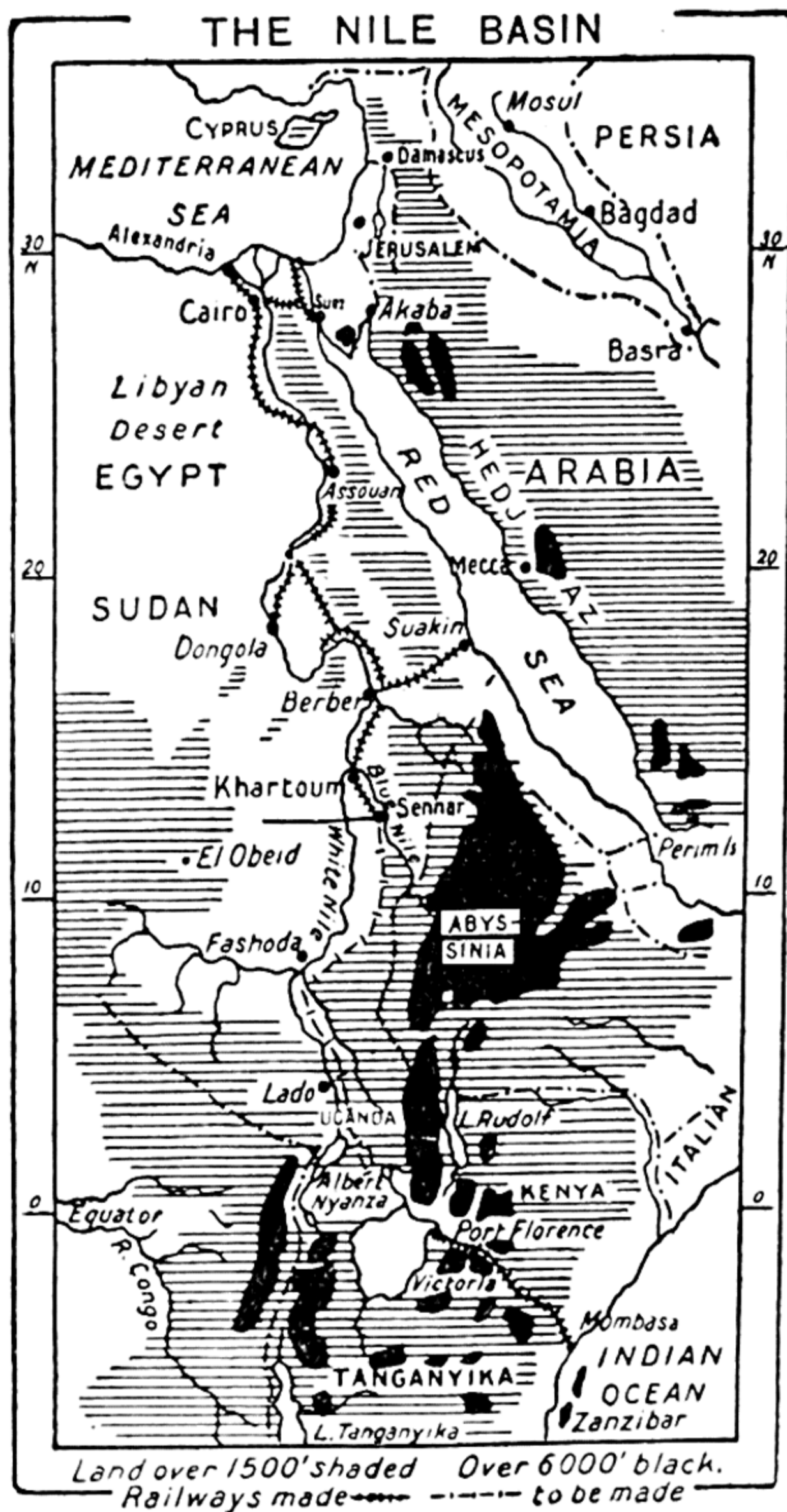
1. Formerly a protectorate of Britain, Egypt became an independent kingdom in 1922. Beyond its southern boundary, which by an agreement with Britain is defined as 22° N. Lat., is the *Soudan*, a vast country extending southwards to the Great Lakes and Uganda, and including by far the greater part of the Nile basin.

2. The **Nile** is formed by the junction of the *White Nile* from Central Africa and the *Blue Nile* from Abyssinia. Many streams, fed by the tropical rains and the melting snows of the mighty peaks of Equatorial Africa, run into the Victoria Nyanza. Its overflow is carried to the Albert Nyanza, from whence the White Nile flows through the forests and grasslands of the Southern Soudan to the north.

The great volume of flood water is brought down by the Blue Nile, which drains off from Abyssinia the surplus water from the torrential rains of the monsoonal season. The fertilising mud which the Nile distributes over the Egyptian cultivated lands is brought down by the Blue Nile. The confluence of the Blue and White Niles is at **Khartoum**, the capital of the Soudan.

The river begins to rise in July, reaches its height

about October, and then slowly falls. Great dams have been built to hold up the water until it reaches the necessary height.



3. Unlike Egypt, much of the Soudan is well wooded, and one of its chief articles of export, *gum arabic*, is a product of the acacia forests that line the banks of the White Nile in Kordofan. The country produces *cotton* of excellent quality, and as irrigation is extended, the quantity grown will greatly increase. *Millet* also is an

important crop, as it is the chief source of the people's food. Besides gum, the forests produce *rubber*, and there is a considerable trade in *skins*, *hides*, and *ivory*.

4. Formerly, these products passed down the Nile to Egypt, but railways having been built to Suakin and Port Soudan, on the Red Sea, much of the export trade has been diverted to these growing Soudanese ports.

5. The people are Arabs, Negroes, and Nubians of mixed race. For many years disease and the vicious slave traffic, now suppressed, greatly reduced their numbers, but in the short period the country has been under British government the population has trebled.

6. Read *Uganda to Khartoum*, by Lloyd; *The Nile Quest*, by Johnston; *Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians*, by Lane.

XVII. BRITISH WEST AFRICA

British West Africa includes Bathurst and other trading stations along the Gambia River, Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast with Ashanti, and Nigeria.

Sierra Leone was occupied as a home for the slaves set free from slave-ships by the British Navy.

Nigeria is an immense district on both sides of the lower *Niger River*. It extends inwards over the highlands to the southern edge of the Sahara and as far as *Lake Chad* eastwards. *Lagos* is the chief port for Nigeria.

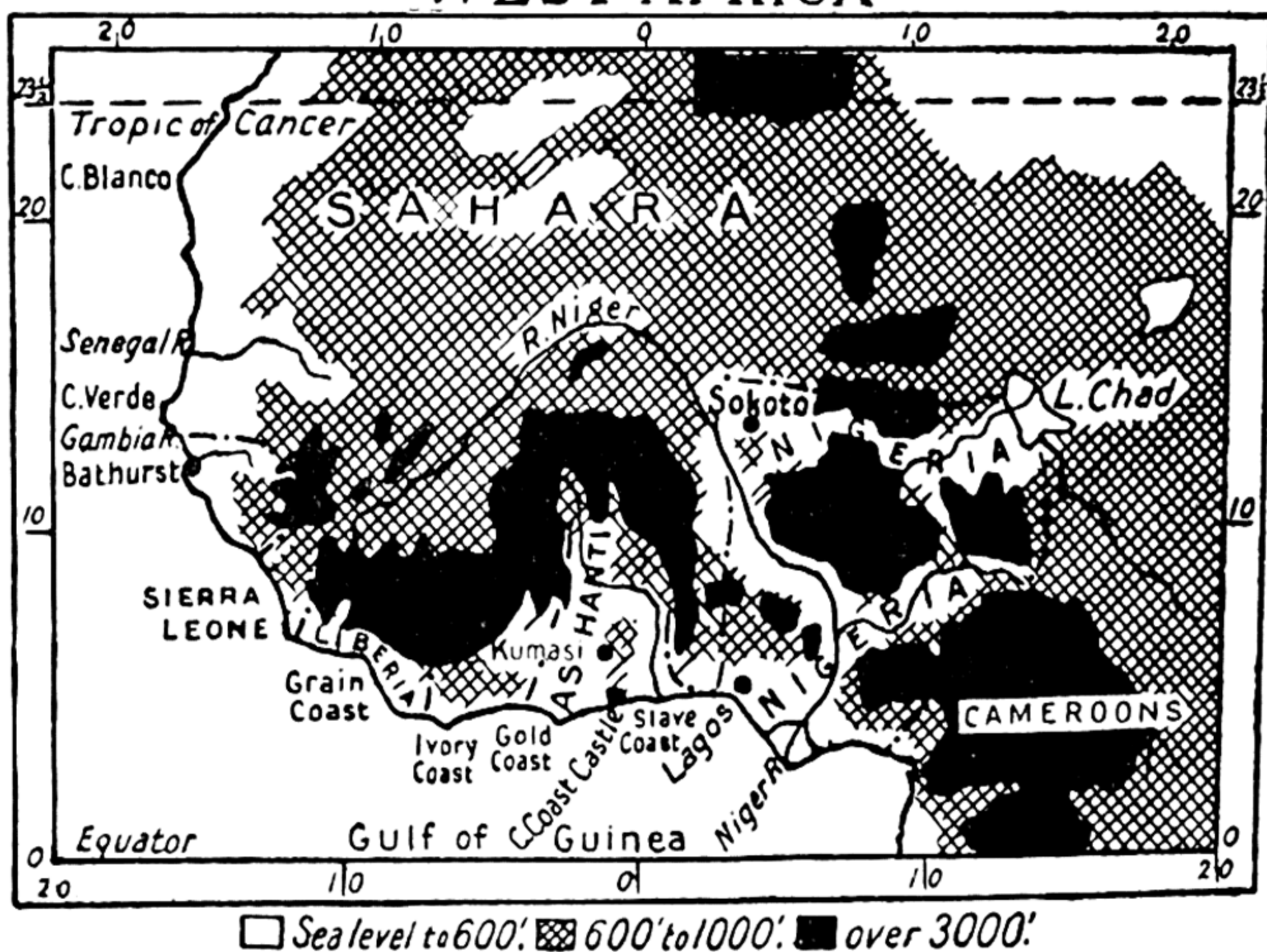
The whole of the coast lands around the Gulf of Guinea are thickly forested, swampy and malarial. The West Coast of Africa has been called "the white man's grave."

Trading stations are scattered along the coast and up the rivers. *Ground nuts*, *palm oil*, *rubber*, *gold dust*, *cocoa* and *copal* are exported. The cultivation of cotton is now being fostered.

The religion of the native Negro is a degraded fetishism.

In the Western Soudan are settled cities and walled towns inhabited by industrious races who are rich in cattle, grow corn, weave native calico from home-grown cotton and carry on an extensive trade across the Sahara. Sokoto is one of the chief towns. The people are a mixed race of Arab and Negro descent, professing Moham-medanism.

WEST AFRICA



Read *In the Niger Country*, by Bindloss; *Nigeria*, by Robinson; *Timbuctoo*, by Dubois; *The Gorilla Hunters*, by Ballantyne.

XVIII. ISLANDS OF AFRICA

1. Far out in the Atlantic are two little islands, *St. Helena* and *Ascension Island*. Both are volcanic in origin, and are held as naval stations to guard the sea-route to India.

Ascension is noted for turtles and wild goats.

St. Helena is fertile and well wooded. Fruits and vegetables grow well. *Napoleon* was exiled there.

2. In the Pacific Ocean to the east of Madagascar is the beautiful little island of **Mauritius**. It is fertile, densely populated, with a coast plain surrounding an interior broken up by hills and valleys. *Sugar, coco-nut oil and rum* are exported.

3. The **Seychelles** and **Amirante Islands** are two groups lying in the Indian Ocean, some distance from the east coast of Africa. Like many islands in the Pacific, they have been described as "British Sentry-boxes" in the ocean.

4. Read *St. Helena*, by Sterndale; *Sub-Tropical Rambles*, by Williams; *Description of Mauritius*, by Keller.

5. Questions and Exercises.

1. Make a sketch map of the Zambesi Basin, and another to show the sources of the Nile, Congo and Zambesi.

2. Represent graphically the following: Nile, 3700 miles; Congo, 3000; Zambesi, 1650; Murray-Darling, 1550; Thames, 215.

3. Why should English people be interested in cotton growing?

4. Where in Africa are suitable areas for cotton growing?

5. Why should British Settlements have been maintained along the malarial coast of Africa?

6. Why have rubber-producing countries grown of much greater importance during the twentieth century?

7. What kinds of oil are imported into England? Where are they found, and of what use are they?

8. Compare Mauritius with the West India Islands.

9. Make sketch maps to show:—(i) the Nile basin; (ii) the Indian Ocean, showing trade routes; (iii) British West Africa.

10. Compare graphically: Mount Kenya, 17,000 ft.; Everest, 29,000; Mount Logan, 19,000; Townsend, 7500; Snowdon, 8500; Skiddaw, 3000 (one square = 1000 ft.).

11. Cotton grows wild in West Africa. Why is there no great export from Lagos?

12. In what way would makers of soap and candles be interested in West Africa?

13. Why should larger salaries be offered by trading firms for service in West Africa than in England, or in Canada?

MISCELLANEOUS EXERCISES

1. Represent graphically the following gold production figures: The World, £96 million; The Transvaal £39½ m.; Australasia, £8½ m.; Canada, £4 m.; Rhodesia, £3·9 m.; India, £2·25 m.; the West Coast of Africa, £1·6 m. (Let 1 square = 10 million.)

2. Make another diagram to show the following petroleum figures, which show the number of barrels of 42 gallons each produced by the countries named : The United States, 335½ million barrels ; Russia, 69 m. ; Mexico, 55½ m. ; India, 8½ m. (mainly Burma) ; Rumania, 2·6 m. ; Trinidad, 1·6 m. ; Egypt, 1 m. ; Canada, ½ m.

3. Show graphically the following cane-sugar figures : Cuba, 8·6 million tons ; United States, 1·2 m. ; British West Indies, ·25 m. ; India, 3 m. ; Australia, ·25 m. ; Fiji, ·01 m. ; Egypt, ·1 m. ; Mauritius, ½ m. (Let 1 square=1 million.)

4. Europe on the average produced 5½ million tons of beet sugar yearly, but only 3·7 million tons in 1918 and 1919. Why was this ? Would it have any effect upon Britain ?

5. The cotton grown in a recent year was approximately as follows : The World, 25 million bales of 400 lbs. each ; America, 13 m. ; India, 4·8 m. ; Egypt, ·6 m. ; West Africa, ·01 m. ; East Africa, ·03 m. ; Soudan, ·02 m. ; West Indies, ·003 m. Show diagrammatically and also say, if you can, why Lancashire merchants wish for the development of cotton growing within the Empire. (Let 1 square=1 million.)

6. Compare graphically the sizes of the following Empires : British, 14·3 million square miles ; Russian, 6 m. ; French, 4·3 m. ; Chinese, 4·3 m. ; United States, 3·8 m. ; Brazil, 3·2 m. (Let 1 square=1 million square miles.)

7. Show by diagrams the comparative populations of the following twelve largest towns of the British Empire : London, 7·4 million ; Calcutta, 1·2 m. ; Glasgow, 1·1 m. ; Bombay, 1·1 m. ; Sydney, ·92 m. ; Birmingham, ·9 m. ; Liverpool, ·8 m. ; Manchester, ·73 m. ; Melbourne, ·7 m. ; Madras, ·52 m. ; Hyderabad, ·5 m. (Let 1 square=1 million.)

8. Show by squared paper the comparative values of the following Canadian exports : Agricultural Produce, £142 million ; Animals, £43 m. ; from Fisheries, £8 m. ; from Forests, £12 m. ; Minerals, £18 m. (Let 1 square=10 million.)

9. Represent the following values of Newfoundland exports by means of squared paper : Cod, £2,500,000 ; Fish Oil, £270,000 ; Woodpulp and Paper, £740,000 ; Herrings, £270,000 ; Sealskins, £51,000 ; Lobster, £37,000. What do you notice about the Newfoundland exports as compared with the Canadian ? (Let 1 square=1 million.)

10. Compare the following figures for Sheep : Australia, 72 million ; New Zealand, 26½ m. ; Cape Colony, 17 m. ; Natal, 1·6 m. ; Transvaal, 3·4 m. ; Orange Free State, 7·9 m. (Let 1 square=10 million.)

11. Represent by diagrams the following figures showing the values of the New Zealand exports : Wool, £12 million ; Frozen Meat, £6 m. ; Butter and Cheese, £6 m. ; Skins, £1·8 m. ; Gold, £1·2 m. (Let 1 square=1 million in Questions 11 and 12.)

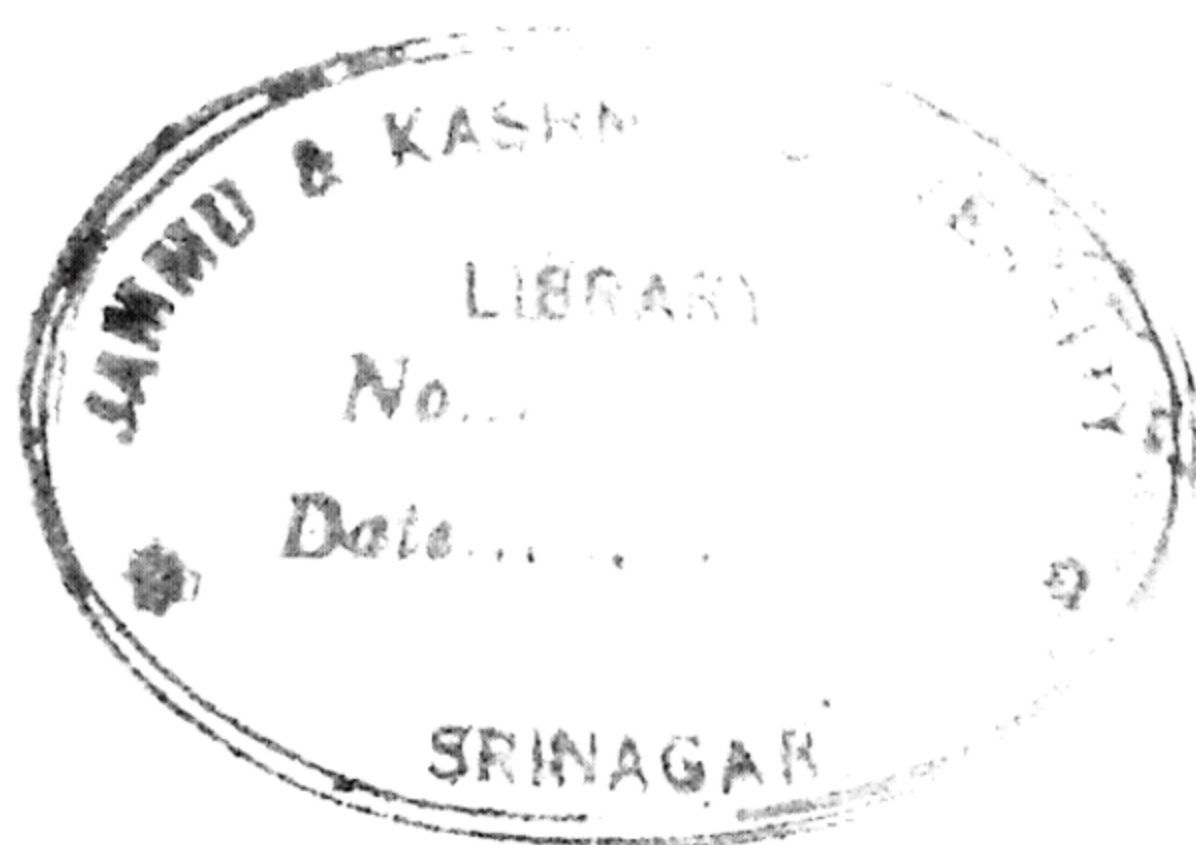
12. Compare with these for Australia : Wool, £28·9 million ; Wheat, £13·3 m. ; Skins, £2·2 m. ; Butter, £5·3 m. ; Gold, £6 m. ; Copper, £4·3 m. ; Tallow, £1·2 m. ; Mutton, £1·5 m. ; Beef, £5 m. ; Zinc, £1 m. ; Silver, £5½ m. ; Copper, £4·8 m. ; Tin, £1 m. ; Coal, £4 m. ; Flour, £3·—



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